

Internship: Lead a project focused on waste diversion, wastewater loading reduction, and water conservation at a food manufacturing facility.

Company: Lakeside Foods – Owatonna, MN

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on waste diversion, wastewater loading reduction, and water conservation with Lakeside Foods. The intern will work with MnTAP and Lakeside to investigate sources of product waste reaching the floor and identifying ways to minimize discharge of high-strength wastewater associated with the vegetable processing lines. The intern will also evaluate water reuse and recycling opportunities as they pertain to this study. The intern will quantify these opportunities and develop suggestions to reduce waste and wastewater loading and outline plans for implementation.

JOB DUTIES:

As part of this project, you will be asked to complete the following tasks:

1. Identify and quantify main sources of wastewater loading to drain within the facility.
2. Develop solutions to reduce wastewater loading, with a focus on vegetable processing best practices.
3. Identify and quantify opportunities for minimization and diversion of solid waste, including food waste.
4. Explore the opportunity to close the loop on single pass cooling water.
5. Make recommendations for specific improvements based on research, testing, and calculation that will result in waste savings, wastewater loading reduction, and water conservation.
6. Estimate waste, wastewater, and water reduction potential from implementation of provided recommendations, then prioritize suggested changes using simple payback methods for financial justification.
7. As appropriate, support implementation of approved process changes or outline plans for future implementation.
8. Summarize findings in a detailed report, including recommended procedures and vendor proposals along with an economic analysis and justification of changes.
9. Present findings to the company and at MnTAP-hosted public presentation events.

As an intern, you will work at Lakeside and report back to MnTAP. The position is full time, 40 hours per week, for three months to start after the conclusion of spring semester or quarter. Pay is \$19/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,500 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$22.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- U.S. work authorization
- Good oral & written communication skills
- A technical academic background
- Troubleshooting skills
- Self-motivated
- Excel and other software skills
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Preferred majors: *Engineering; environmental, agricultural, or physical sciences; and others as applicable*

TO APPLY:

Apply online at:

www.mntap.umn.edu/interns/student/apply/

Remember to submit your application form, cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript.

Applications can be addressed to:

Matt Domski, Intern Program Manager

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MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY