

Graduate Assistantship in Wetland Science

Full-time graduate research assistantship position is available for studies in wetland science. The position is in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology at the University of Maryland College Park. Student will participate in and perform thesis research on a NOAA-funded study on the response of tidal marsh vegetation and soils to prescribed burns; the study will take place at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge near Cambridge, MD. This study is a component of a research program on marsh sustainability and carbon sequestration. For more information on this project see <http://sawgal.umd.edu/Blackwater/blackwater.html>

We are seeking a student with strong communication, organization, and analytical skills who is able and enthusiastic to perform field work in a rigorous environment. The study requires intensive field work from Feb 2009–Aug 2009. Due to this timeframe, the project is ideally suited for a student wishing to complete a Masters degree in two years; doctoral students are also encouraged to apply. Responsibilities will include site establishment, data and sample collection, boat operation, and laboratory analyses. Students will perform a laboratory rotation across three labs at the University of Maryland (Dr. Brian Needelman, Dr. Raymond Weil, and Dr. Andrew Baldwin) and one at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (Dr. J. Patrick Megonigal). Background in environmental science is required and a background in wetland or soil science (or related disciplines) is preferred. For additional information on our graduate program see <http://enst.umd.edu/graduate/index.cfm>. For application information see <http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/>. Assistantship includes stipend (\$23-26K per year), tuition waiver, and health benefits. Starting date by Jan 2009 or sooner. Please contact Dr. Brian Needelman for more information (bneed@umd.edu; 301-405-8227).