**DCDC Internship: City of Scottsdale Water Conservation Department**

**Location:**
9312 N 94th St
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

**Website:** [https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water)

**DCDC Internship Program Information**

**About the internship organization:**

City of Scottsdale Water Conservation Department’s mission is water sustainability through stewardship, innovation and people. Our vision and priorities: To consistently deliver superior quality water and service to the citizens of Scottsdale by continuously ensuring a safe, sustainable drinking water system, operating an innovative water reclamation system and maintaining our position as one of the nation’s most advanced and efficient water utilities.

**About the internship:**

The intern hired into this position will have the option of two different projects depending on their interest and experience.

1. **Tree and Plant Survey (Vegetation Mapping) for Scottsdale’s Xeriscape Garden at Chaparral Park:** Student will be responsible for helping support a Water Conservation Specialist with cataloguing all tree and plant species and their locations in the garden. They will map these locations using GIS software and create a database of plant properties (e.g. if plants have unique circumstances like structural supports added after storm damage, etc). Student should have GIS experience if they would like to choose this option for the internship. Beyond identifying, mapping and describing each of the plant species, the student may define their own research question though ideally they will relate it to water conservation. Student will have access to the garden’s water usage data (current and historic) if they need it for their research question. The final deliverable will be a comprehensive database of plant species and their location in the garden.

2. **Historic Rebate Water Conservation Study:** Student will be responsible for gathering and displaying the water savings of a rebate program that has been running since 1992. They will work across various city databases as well as possibly inputting data from historic paper records to capture and understand the water use.

The student will gain an understanding of real-world data application as it relates to water conservation in a public water utility and city government applications. The student will also work with concepts and applications that have defined outcomes, but may not have defined procedures to draw those conclusions. Therefore, the student will go through the exercise of creating a solution and process to a known problem through their own research. By the end of this internship, the student will be able to speak on the impacts of city water conservation practices and how they relate to the larger community.
Desired Qualifications:

Exemplary writing skills
Detail-oriented
Organized
Comfort with Excel/Database software
ArcGIS software experience if pursuing the plant database project
Have a general interest in water sustainability and conservation
Junior or Senior honors student in sustainability, resource management, environmental science, ecology, geography or related major

Preferred Majors:
Open to all majors. Degrees offering credit include: School of Sustainability (SOS 484), School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning (PUP 484), Barrett Honors College (HON 484)

Compensation:
There is a stipend associated with this internship in the amount of $1,350, which is paid in two installments in the spring semester.

Hours Per Week:
135 hours total. 10-12 hours/week during the spring semester

Closing Date:
October 14, 2018

Application Instructions and Contact Info:
Please send a resume and cover letter indicating specific interest in this internship position and why are you a good candidate.

Submit materials to: Emily Grunspan, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Decision Center for a Desert City, Emily.Grunspan@asu.edu