

**Pennsylvania Sea Grant
Coastal Outreach Specialist(s) positions available
January 28, 2021**

Pennsylvania Sea Grant, a partnership of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Penn State University, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is dedicated to promoting the ecological and economic sustainability of Pennsylvania's coastal resources through the development of science-based research, education, and extension programs. Pennsylvania Sea Grant is part of a national network of 34 Sea Grant College Programs.

Pennsylvania Sea Grant (PASG) seeks two experienced outreach professionals to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate regional outreach programs with a focus on watershed restoration and community resiliency. Issues to be addressed may include climate adaptation, extreme weather impacts, and water quality improvements on the communities in southeastern and central Pennsylvania. These positions will work with a wide range of entities to promote education and develop new outreach programs to meet the information needs of local, state, and federal agencies, and interest groups. Groups served may include coastal and upstream communities, businesses, municipalities, public and private landowners, and educators. Specialists will work closely with universities, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations to develop programming relevant to Pennsylvania's Delaware and Susquehanna River watersheds that may be replicated in other regional estuarine and riverine systems.

The Coastal Outreach Specialists will focus their outreach efforts on watershed restoration and community resilience. The specialists will work individually, with other Pennsylvania Sea Grant staff, and in cooperation with other Sea Grant programs, partner agencies, and organizations to accomplish the goals and outcomes relevant to their areas of expertise within the Pennsylvania Sea Grant strategic plan and National Sea Grant visioning plans, including:

- Ensuring that vulnerable and at-risk coastal communities are aware of changing conditions and have information to improve their resilience, economies, and community well-being.
- Sustaining and protecting water resources to meet emerging needs of the communities, economies and ecosystems that depend on them.
- Providing outreach about the ways trends and extremes in weather are affecting Pennsylvania, offering regionally specific adaptation actions.
- Working with local governments and community groups to increase capacity and funding to implement strategies to improve community resiliency and water quality.
- Providing outreach that produce weather- and climate-resilient communities that understand how cumulative and inter-related changes in climate affect human and ecological health.

Specific duties may include:

- Working with local communities to assess baseline knowledge of weather and climate risks and watershed planning capacity, address knowledge gaps, and identify information and research needs to implement adaptation and restoration planning.
- Working with communities to develop/create strategies to engage with local stakeholders (residents, property owners, business owners, municipal officials, and others) to prioritize needs and necessary actions to include in local resilience and watershed plans and policies.

- Working to identify external barriers, challenges, and other constraining factors to community-level implementation of measures to improve climate resiliency and watershed restoration.
- Seek opportunities to improve capacity and bring additional research and implementation funding to local and regional efforts.
- Using the Chester Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan as a model, working with communities to develop local and regional plans and strategies to implement solutions for stormwater and watershed restoration challenges, focusing on opportunities that generate environmental, social, and economic co-benefits.
- Developing case studies on green infrastructure projects on a local and regional basis to share with community leaders to help convey the benefits of green infrastructure to help manage stormwater.
- Working to identify research opportunities to fill identified gaps in weather and climate information, watershed restoration, green stormwater infrastructure implementation, and data needs, and to address implementation challenges.

Internally, the specialists will participate in the solicitation and review cycle for Sea Grant research, conveying stakeholder priorities and linking them with the research community, and be responsible for periodically reporting project updates and progress reports, and needs, metrics and/or outcomes for programmatic reporting.

Occasional weekend and evening hours will be required. These positions will require local travel in and across Pennsylvania, and overnight travel to meetings and conferences across Pennsylvania and throughout the US. The specialists will perform other related duties as assigned or requested, and the program reserves the right to add or change duties at any time. These positions offer the opportunity for partial remote work but will require presence at PASG offices as needed. Candidates must be authorized to work in the United States without sponsorship.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree and least four years of work experience (or an equivalent combination of education and experience) relevant to the programmatic responsibilities of the position including, but not limited to, aquatic science, natural resources, geology, planning, conservation management, marine and coastal resources, environmental policy or management, climate adaptation, water quality improvements, or related fields focusing on coastal resilience.
- Demonstrated experience working with and facilitating cooperative processes with other agencies, community-based services, coalitions, local governments or organizations to address programmatic priorities and needs.
- Ability to communicate effectively using a variety of methods and technology.
- Ability to effectively work with people from different cultural backgrounds, including those associated with race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, socioeconomic status, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and other aspects of human diversity.
- Must be able to meet the travel requirements of the position and have reliable transportation as well as have and maintain a valid and unrestricted Pennsylvania driver's license.
- Computer literacy including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, email and web browsers.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Master's Degree and an additional two or more years of related experience.
- Demonstrated proficient ability in project development and management, grant development and management, and documenting programmatic outcomes and impacts.
- Strong project management and excellent interpersonal skills are essential to successfully fulfilling the responsibilities of this position.
- Proficiency in developing workshops and presentations, facilitating groups, and coordinating with a variety of councils, boards, commissions, agencies and stakeholder groups.
- Experience in grant writing and managing grants and grant-funded projects and studies.
- Excellent project management skills and demonstrated ability to work successfully within a team setting as well as independently on projects, grants and outreach across a wide range of settings and groups.
- Demonstrated experience in developing, planning, and implementing education or outreach programs for diverse audiences.
- Demonstrated ability of working effectively in a team setting with staff, constituents and partners with varying backgrounds, interests, and abilities in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

- Excellent written, interpersonal, and group presentation communication skills, with demonstrated experience in communicating science to non-scientists.
- Self-motivated with demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Demonstrated experience working with community leaders on addressing vulnerabilities or increasing resilience to weather- or climate-related hazards.

There are two positions available, one will focus on Southeastern Pennsylvania (Delaware/Bucks counties), and the second will focus on Central Pennsylvania (Dauphin/Centre counties). They are both full-time, grant funded positions. The successful candidates are expected to develop an extramurally funded program that generates at least 25% of their annual salary within three years of joining the staff. These are fixed-term appointments funded for one year from date of hire with excellent possibility of re-funding.

[Please submit a cover letter and resume to apply.](#) All application materials should be uploaded at the same time at the time of application. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

To Apply: https://psu.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/PSU_Staff/job/Penn-State-Erie-The-Behrend-College/Pennsylvania-Sea-Grant-Coastal-Outreach-Specialist_REQ_0000009594-1

The following background checks must be successfully completed for these positions:

This position will require successful completion of standard background checks.

The Pennsylvania State University is committed to and accountable for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its forms. We embrace individual uniqueness, foster a culture of inclusive excellence that supports both broad and specific diversity initiatives, leverage the educational and institutional benefits of diversity, and engage all individuals to help them thrive. We value inclusive excellence as a core strength and an essential element of our public service mission.