

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services seeks candidates for a full-time/permanent Shellfish Program Specialist, to support the department's shellfish growing area classification program under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

The position, based out of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire field office, includes a mix of field and office work. Responsibilities include year-round sampling of seawater and shellfish tissue from the state's tidal waters and mudflats, and performing shoreline surveys to identify/evaluate/track land use changes and pollution sources near shellfish harvest areas. The program's various monitoring programs are designed to manage public health risks associated with bacterial and viral contamination of harvest areas, episodes of harmful algal blooms, and other issues. The Shellfish Program Specialist will work closely with commercial shellfish farmers, recreational shellfish harvesters, municipal public works officials, federal agencies, research organizations, and multiple NH state agencies. The successful candidate will also supervise the program's seasonal intern.

The job posting will close on or before September 8, 2023. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Once a qualified applicant is hired, the job posting will be closed.

Questions about the position should be directed to Chris Nash, NHDES Shellfish Program Manager ([William.C.Nash@des.nh.gov](mailto:William.C.Nash@des.nh.gov), or 603-568-6741).

# #32250 - ENVIRONMENTALIST III - External

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## SHELLFISH PROGRAM SPECIALIST(Job Id 32250)

**Location:** US:NH:PORTSMOUTH

**Category:** PROFESSIONAL &  
MANAGERIAL

**Employment Type:**

**Post Date:** 07/25/2023

**Close Date:** 09/08/2023

**Salary:** 52,669.500-  
74,275.500 USD

## Description

State of New Hampshire Job Posting

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

WATER DIVISION / WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BUREAU

222 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE, SUITE 175, PORTSMOUTH NH 03801

**ENVIRONMENTALIST III**

LABOR GRADE 23

Position #44544

The State of New Hampshire, Department of Environmental Services, Water Division, Watershed Management Bureau has a full time vacancy for an Environmentalist III - Shellfish Program Specialist.

### Summary:

Initiates, plans, implements, and coordinates detailed studies of the estuarine environment, including evaluating the impact of proposed actions on tidal waters, determining the potential risk to public health and the suitability of estuarine waters for the production and harvesting of shellfish. Supervises subordinates and cooperating organizations in conducting site investigations and serves as the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Officer for the DES Shellfish Program.

**YOUR EXPERIENCE COUNTS** - Under a recent change to the rules, an applicant's relevant experience now counts towards formal education degrees referenced below! *See Per 405.1.*

18 Months of additional relevant experience = Associate's degree

36 Months of additional relevant experience = Bachelor's degree

54 Months of additional relevant experience = Master's degree

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

**Education:** Bachelor's degree from a recognized college or university with major study in a related environmental science. Each additional year of approved formal education may be substituted for one year of required work experience.

Experience: Four years' experience as an Environmentalist or in a field related to the occupational area in which the vacancy exists, such as limnology, marine biology, resource management, environmental engineering, environmental law, wildlife, botany or biology.

License/Certification: Must possess a valid driver's license. Must possess a New Hampshire Department of Safety boater education certificate or obtain within one month of hire.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: Experience with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program: Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, and knowledge of New Hampshire tidal waters. Proficient with Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel and experienced with the DES Environmental Monitoring Database, Microsoft Access, and ArcGIS. Experience in light microscope identification of harmful algal bloom species and taxa common to the Gulf of Maine. Ability to coordinate with stakeholders in the commercial and recreational shellfish industry and between state and federal agencies. Ability to plan, develop or improve aspects of the DES Shellfish Program. Ability to supervise the work of others.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must be able to operate Department boats on tidal waters and perform basic maintenance.

Must be able to work outside of the standard workday (early morning, late afternoon/evening, and weekend) as needed on a year-round basis. Must be able to work in an unpleasant outside environment as in the rain, cold temperature, etc. Must be able to carry out work assignments that may include continuous walking over rough, uneven, or wet terrain, as well as occasional strenuous activities such as reaching, bending, lifting, or pulling.

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT: The supplemental job description lists the essential functions of the position and is not intended to include every job duty and responsibility specific to the position. An employee may be required to perform other related duties not listed on the supplemental job description provided that such duties are characteristic of that classification.

#### Responsibilities:

Collects environmental data, including water quality, phytoplankton, and shellfish meat samples for chemical, biological, and physical analyses, in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program protocols and state policies, to determine suitability of shellfish waters for harvesting. Delivers samples to cooperating laboratories in Concord NH and other locations.

Performs data management activities including data entry, data quality assurance checks, trend tracking and analysis and other data management tasks related to quality assurance of the DES Shellfish Program.

Serves as the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Officer for the DES Shellfish Program, including the development, maintenance, and implementation of Quality Assurance Project Plans for the Shellfish Program with minimal oversight by the Shellfish Program Manager.

Plans, conducts, documents, maintains, and updates shoreline surveys for pollution sources in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines and Department goals and objectives.

Coordinates and conducts special research projects on emerging field and laboratory methods to detect harmful algal bloom species/taxa and marine biotoxins.

Supervises subordinates and cooperating organizations in conducting site investigations to evaluate existing soil, water, and

geological conditions, as well as to identify potential cultural pollution sources.

Plans, conducts, and reports on dye/dilution studies to determine safety zones around the outfalls of wastewater treatment facilities, marinas, and other pollution sources.

Develops information, graphs, pictures, text, etc. for reporting purposes and/or other outreach initiatives, including Geographic Information Systems data relevant to the NHDES Shellfish Program.

Oversees use of and maintains the NHDES Shellfish Program shoreline survey data, including data housed within the Department's Environmental Monitoring database; and assists in special projects to evaluate the sanitary quality of shellfish waters.

Assists with Shellfish Program pager and cellphone response coverage for wastewater treatment facility notifications (6am-9pm, 7 days per week). While on duty, remains within geographic area of program cellphone and pager service, immediately evaluates the public health significance of issues reported, and works with NH Fish and Game to implement immediate harvest closures and public notification, as needed. Implements immediate site inspection and/or environmental sampling as needed.

Continually seeks to improve practices to add quality and value in support of the Department's mission while identifying and eliminating unnecessary or redundant actions.

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Criminal background and driving record review required.

For further information please contact Chris Nash, Environmentalist IV at [william.c.nash@des.nh.gov](mailto:william.c.nash@des.nh.gov) or at 603-559-1509.

**\*TOTAL COMPENSATION INFORMATION**

The State of NH total compensation package features an outstanding set of employee benefits, including:

HMO or POS Medical and Prescription Drug Benefits:

The actual value of State-paid health benefits is based on the employee's union status, and employee per pay period health benefit contributions will vary depending on the type of plan selected.

**See this link for details on State-paid health benefits:**

<https://www.das.nh.gov/hr/benefits.aspx>

Value of State's share of Employee's Retirement: 14.53% of pay

**Other Benefits:**

\* Dental Plan at minimal cost for employees and their families (\$500-\$1800 value)

\* Flexible Spending healthcare and childcare reimbursement accounts

\*State defined benefit retirement plan and Deferred Compensation 457(b) plan

\*Work/life balance flexible schedules, paid holidays and generous leave plan

\*\$50,000 state-paid life insurance plus additional low-cost group life insurance

\*Incentive-based Wellness Program (ability to earn up to \$500)

**Total Compensation Statement Worksheet:**

<https://www.das.nh.gov/jobsearch/compensation-calculator.aspx>

**Want the specifics? Explore the Benefits of State Employment on our website:**

<https://www.das.nh.gov/hr/documents/BenefitBrochure.pdf>

<https://www.das.nh.gov/hr/index.aspx>

EOE

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964