



# PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

## SOUTHEAST REGION

253 SNYDER ROAD READING, PA 19605 | 1-833-742-4868 (PGC HUNT) 1-833-742-9453 (PGC WILD)

### PA Game Commission – Southeast Region 2025 Summer Internships

Are you excited to begin a career in conservation but need more field training and experience? Do you want your first steps to contribute to the management and conservation of wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping? If so, your goals align with the mission of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and our summer internship program is designed for you! Pennsylvania's wildlife agency seeks hard-working, highly motivated students eager to develop their conservation knowledge and skills while experiencing all the agency has to offer.

#### **Available Opportunities and Learning Objectives:**

Habitat Management, Wildlife Management and Education, as well as Forestry internships are available. Descriptions of each are provided below. We encourage you to apply to one or more opportunities depending on your interests. If awarded an internship, you will focus primarily in one of the three internship types below. However, exposure to and collaboration across various disciplines will occur frequently and is considered an important part of the experience.

#### **Wildlife & Habitat Management Internship (2 positions)**

Work Location: PGC Southeast Region – 12 counties in Southeast Pennsylvania  
253 Snyder Road, Reading PA 19605

Description of work: Providing hunters, trappers, and wildlife enthusiasts access to premier wildlife habitats is key to our mission. Two interns will be assigned to work throughout the entire southeast region with the habitat management crews and wildlife biologists. These teams work together to better understand and manage our wildlife and habitat resources. Our seven habitat management crews are responsible for 40 state game lands covering approximately 158,000 acres of habitat. Our wildlife management team studies and monitors all game and non-game mammal and bird species within the region. Interns will gain hands-on experience in wildlife and habitat management as they work side-by-side with agency professionals. Time may also be spent with foresters, land surveyors, and other agency professionals depending on agency needs and intern interests.

While with the habitat crews, interns will be introduced to the comprehensive planning process which provides the foundation for all work completed within the State Game Lands system. They will gain experience in enhancing native habitats to include fields, shrublands, wetlands, and forested habitats. Habitat enhancement techniques include proper herbicide application (hand and mechanical) to treat invasive species, prescribed fire to set back succession, and mechanical treatments. They will learn how to safely operate machinery, tractor implements, and power/hand tools, while assisting with infrastructure maintenance of gates, parking lots, boundary lines, and State Game Lands signage.

While with the wildlife team, interns will learn how and why we monitor wildlife populations and how it plays a part of game lands management, private lands technical advising, and even species management throughout North America. Interns will gain experience with various wildlife capture, handling, and

marking techniques, as well as wildlife disease sampling. Species may include black bears, American kestrels, barn owls, mourning doves, waterfowl, wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, and various songbirds.

### **Middle Creek Wildlife & Outreach Internship (1 position)**

Work Location: Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area Visitors Center  
*100 Museum Road, Stevens PA 17578*

Description of work: Intern will cover a variety of jobs at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area, a 6,000 acre area home to hundreds of species of wildlife that also hosts over 140,000 visitors a year. Job duties will focus on wildlife management for specialized species like waterfowl, grassland nesting birds, and other wetland dependent communities. Hands on experience and surveys with wildlife including American kestrels, waterfowl, and songbirds will also be part of the opportunity after appropriate training. The intern will also assist with public outreach and speaking opportunities with the public in person or virtually at the Middle Creek Visitors Center or local outreach events.

Training and experience will be provided as necessary for job duties including operation wildlife ID and handling techniques, educational and outreach instruction with an emphasis on content creation through Canva and video editing software. Proper training on UTV use and hand tools will be provided.

### **Conservation Education Internship (1 position)**

Work Location: USFWS John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge  
*8601 Lindbergh Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19153*

Description of work: This internship opportunity is to assist both the Environmental Education Specialists and various staff at the US Fish and Wildlife Service John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. Each day will be different in terms of assisting in the education of different age groups with varying educational programs and activities. However, exposure to and collaboration across various disciplines will occur frequently and is considered an important part of the experience.

### **Forestry Internship (2 positions)**

Work Location: PGC Southeast Region – 12 counties in Southeast Pennsylvania  
*253 Snyder Road, Reading PA 19605*

Description of work: Interns will assist the Southeast Region forestry staff with the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of activities designed to manage, protect, and enhance forest resources on State Game Lands within the Southeast Region of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

This work may include but is not limited to the marking and surveying of wildlife habitat improvement project boundaries, marking and estimating timber volumes, marking reserve trees, collecting stand data, assisting with the chemical control of undesirable plants in forest stands, collecting infrastructure and habitat data for input into the GIS database, assisting with prescribed fire activities, and miscellaneous other duties. Many common forestry tools will be utilized in the completion of the work. Training will be provided for the data collection procedures, **but applicants must have completed a formal tree identification course before applying for the internship. Applicants will be required to accurately identify trees in the field as part of the interview process.**

## Rewards:

Our goal is to mentor and recruit the next generation of conservation professionals. As an intern, you will explore career and agency opportunities, gaining an inside look into your future. You will develop specialized skill sets through hands-on application while being mentored by professionals within your field of study. You will collaborate with other conservationists and participate in agency meetings, forming relationships you can build on in the future.

Compensation: \$17.00 /hour for 40 hours/week

Schedule: Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (habitat/forestry), 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with some weekend work needed (Middle Creek) – subject to change depending on project

Anticipated starting date: May 12, 2025\*

Anticipated ending date: August 15, 2025\*

Maximum Hours: 749 hours/calendar year

Vehicle provided from work location when needed

\*Subject to change based on student availability before/after these dates

## Qualifications:

- Preferred candidates will have college-level coursework or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, natural resource management, environmental education, communications, and/or marketing
- Must be going or returning to a college or university in the fall with a minimum of 12 credits.
- Valid driver's license
- Hard working and motivated
- Positive attitude and eager to learn
- Professional communication skills
- Open to collaboration/working with others
- Supportive of PGC's mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations

## To Apply:

Internship applicants must be students who will be going or return to college in Fall 2025. **\*\*All interested persons must submit current resume and proof of college enrollment which must include students' name/ID number, University/College they are attending, the degree and courses they are enrolled in and number credits to the individuals listed below for the appropriate internship on or before February 14, 2025.** Proof of Fall 2025 enrollment may be provided later (but prior to commencement of the internship). Interviews will be conducted early-March to select interns.

## Questions and Application Submittals:

Wildlife & Habitat Management Internships – Contact Steve Ferreri at [aferreri@pa.gov](mailto:aferreri@pa.gov)

Middle Creek Wildlife & Outreach Internship – Contact Laura Richmond at [lrichmond@pa.gov](mailto:lrichmond@pa.gov)

Conservation Education Internship – Contact Audrey Bleiler at [ableiler@pa.gov](mailto:ableiler@pa.gov)

Forestry Internships – Contact Andy Weaver at [jonweaver@pa.gov](mailto:jonweaver@pa.gov)