



**TITLE:** Lead & Copper Data Collection and School Education - Intern

**EMPLOYER:** NEIWPCC, Boott Mills 116 John Street, Lowell, MA 01852-1124

**SALARY:** Grade and step dependent upon level of experience and qualifications.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** This is a temporary position.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission serves as a forum for interstate communication and coordination on water-related pollution control efforts among the New England states and New York State.

**JOB SUMMARY:**

Assist Maine in its efforts to educate schools on lead and copper in drinking water and the associated health impacts. Identify which schools are in most need of education, contact water suppliers and collect all existing sampling data on record for schools. Compile a list of all schools where water is sampled as part of the water system's sampling plan.

Based on the results and remaining resources, target specific school districts for education and outreach.

Education would include:

- Descriptions of lead and copper (what each is, where it comes from, how it gets in drinking water)
- Health effects of both lead and copper (particularly as it pertains to children)
- Particular problem areas in schools, such as:
  - Drinking fountains that are used infrequently
  - Long periods when water sits in pipes
  - Improperly functioning water coolers
  - Older construction (before lead ban)
- Steps schools can take to reduce the risk of high lead or copper in the drinking water:
  - Flushing lines
  - Removing fixtures/fountains
  - Switching to lead-free fixtures and plastic piping
  - Educating staff, students, parents
- Review of sampling procedures and other requirements of the Lead/Copper Rule for schools that are a public water system
- Handing out brochures/pamphlets/posters that assist with the educational process

The intern will use existing EPA and Maine outreach and education materials. If resources

permit, the intern might develop new information.

**RECOMMENDED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Education

Minimum of a Bachelor's degree or working towards a degree in communications, journalism, environmental education or interpretation, natural resources, natural resource policy or a related field.

**Special Knowledge and Skills:**

Basic computer skills (especially word processing).  
Excellent communication skills both verbal and written.

**SUPERVISORY CONTROLS:**

This position will report to Kara Sergeant, NEIWPCC.