



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County



**Peconic Estuary
Partnership**

PROTECTING AND RESTORING LONG ISLAND'S PECONIC BAYS

Position Title: Peconic Estuary Partnership Internship: Alewife Monitoring - Data Analysis
Location: Remote

Position Summary: The Peconic Estuary Partnership (PEP) is an innovative partnership of local, state, and federal governments, citizen and environmental groups, businesses and industries, and academic institutions charged with carrying out the goals of improved water quality and ecosystem health as outlined in PEP's Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan.

The intern will assist with analyzing video footage to estimate the number of Alewife using the Grangebel Park fish passage and coming up the Peconic River to spawn. The internship will be conducted remotely and requires a computer. This is a non-paid internship with flexible start and end dates.

Background: Every spring, Alewife travel from the ocean to coastal waters and eventually make their way into freshwater rivers and streams to spawn. However, barriers – such as dams and road culverts – can block them from reaching their spawning habitat. The Peconic Estuary Partnership (PEP) is working with its partners to [restore access for alewife to their critical freshwater habitat](#) by providing passage through or around these barriers. In 2010 a fishway was built at the Grangebel Park Dam on the Peconic River, restoring access to 25 acres of habitat for alewife and other diadromous fish. Since the completion of this fishway, the PEP has been [monitoring Alewife on the Peconic River](#), through visual fish counts and biological sampling. During spring 2019, 2020 and 2021, a video camera was installed at the Grangebel Park fishway to get a better estimate of the number of Alewife using this fishway and coming up the Peconic River to spawn. The intern will assist with the analysis of recorded video footage to help us determine the abundance trend over 2019-2021.

Major Responsibilities

- Watch recorded video footage, record species and number of fish
- Assist with data analysis

Skills:

- Attention to detail
- Ability to use Excel spreadsheets
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to maintain a positive and professional attitude

Please send resume and cover letter to Elizabeth Hornstein elizabeth.hornstein@dec.ny.gov and Kaitlin Morris kmm435@cornell.edu to apply. The position will remain open until filled.