



BERKSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM
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Protecting the environment for wildlife in support of the natural world that sustains us all.

Air Quality Mobile Monitor Job Description

Background

Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) is a non-profit organization with a mission to protect the environment for wildlife in support of the natural world that sustains us all. We take on a broad scope of work to achieve our ambitious goals. Some of our current projects include actively sampling stormwater pipes for *E. coli* to eliminate pollution in our rivers, performing stream continuity surveys to improve aquatic connectivity, challenging peaking power and biomass plants to reduce air pollution, assisting in the implementation of composting and zero waste initiatives throughout the county, and more! BEAT is an equal opportunity organization. We work closely with all types of people and we stand against all forms of discrimination including those based upon age, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability, race, color, veteran status, marital status, size, religion, sexual orientation, LGBTQ+ status, socioeconomic background, or system of belief.

Pittsfield Air Quality Monitoring Project

Using ten stationary continuous air monitors and several handheld mobile monitors, BEAT will be monitoring for PM2.5, PM10 and NO2 throughout key locations in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, including environmental justice neighborhoods, city schools, near point sources of pollution and in “control” locations away from these centers. We will compile neighborhood-level air quality data to compare with location and weather data. We will also conduct a public health survey in which community members note any existing or new health concerns and increases and decreases in severity, chronologically pairing this data with air quality monitoring results to look for any correlation. This data will be shared with local, regional and state agencies as well as environmental and community action organizations to advocate for changes in policy to lower environmental pollution with the goal of addressing climate impacts and public health, especially in vulnerable environmental justice neighborhoods.

Air Quality Mobile Monitoring Program Staff

BEAT is seeking air quality mobile monitors to assist with sampling air quality at a range of locations in Pittsfield using handheld air quality monitors. Mobile monitor staff will coordinate with the project manager to determine the location and timing of air quality sampling to take place in Pittsfield on regular rotational shifts, as well in response to local air quality issues reported by the public. Sampling at different times of day, in different weather conditions through all four seasons will be required. Air quality associates will attend community events to

demonstrate the sampling process and real time results. Opportunities for diving deeper into data analysis will be available for those interested, but not required.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Walk predetermined mobile monitoring routes with other mobile monitor staff members
- Read and record data from mobile monitor devices in the field, then save and organize collected data using Google Drive
- Perform community outreach at local events, sharing the project goals and your work as mobile monitors, as well as air quality results from monitoring when available
- Communicate closely with project manager and other mobile monitor staff to schedule shifts on a monthly or weekly basis, coordinate cancellations and reschedule shifts when necessary
- Work with project manager to carry out community health study, including performing public outreach and collecting community input and stories

Required Qualifications

- Ability to walk outdoors in various weather conditions (excepting rain or hazardous weather) for up to 3 hours
- Ability to travel to sampling sites in Pittsfield neighborhoods
- Ability to adhere to a strict protocol for accurate data collection
- Strong interpersonal skills, especially when interacting with a diverse array of community members

Preferred Qualifications

- A Curious and investigative mindset with interested in discovering sources of air pollution and determining contributing factors to Pittsfield's air quality
- Familiarity with air quality monitoring or similar mobile environmental monitoring equipment is a strong plus
- Proficiency with Google Drive and Google Sheets

This is a part-time position offering \$17.50/hr., averaging approximately 20 hrs./month and lasting through the end of 2025. Scheduling is flexible, and actual hours per month will vary based on seasonal activities. Training will be provided.

To apply, please send a resume, cover letter, and three professional references to Project Manager Andrew Ferrara at beat.zerowaste@gmail.com. *Pittsfield residents, especially residents of Westside and Morningside neighborhoods are strongly encouraged to apply*