# Why Hire An Intern?

## Benefits of Utility Interns

* **Spark community awareness.** Water utilities are so important to quality of life and economic success in your community. When water interns share about their experiences it helps community members and local leaders understand the value of water utilities and the people who work there.
* **Create a talent pool.** Through positive and engaging experiences, interns become your future employees. Interns also introduce others to water careers by sharing their stories about their time in the public water industry with their friends and family.
* **Build capacity.** Interns can be a cost-effective solution for handling daily operational tasks.
* **Uplift current employees.** Teaching the next generation about your job enriches utility staff; interns boost employee morale!

## What Does an Internship Look Like?

Internships inspire young people by showcasing the important public service, economic, and environmental aspects of water work. There are plenty of opportunities to introduce and engage interns in the full scope of work that it takes to run your utility.

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**Internship Activity Ideas:**

* Going on and leading plant tours
* Leak repairs
* Customer service or billing support
* Creating content for social media
* Writing a blog, article, or making videos
* Observing and testing in the lab
* Attending a city council meeting
* Meter reading
* Hydrant testing and flushing
* Chlorine residual testing
* Safety training
* Lead service line mapping
* Sewer cleaning
* General maintenance (painting, mowing, etc.)
* Residuals or sludge management
* Well maintenance
* Data collection