

THE NATURE'S VALLEY TRUST – MARINE DEBRIS

Number of Placements: 1

Location: Nature's Valley, Plettenberg Bay, South Africa

URL: <http://www.naturesvalleytrust.co.za>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria.

Position Description:

Litter on our beaches is a global concern for conservationists. To effectively manage the problem on the ground, we need to understand not only the various sources of the litter on our beaches, but also the user groups that are contributing disproportionately more waste than others. Once this has been accomplished, a well-designed conservation intervention campaign can be implemented to try to reduce the amount of local litter being left on our beaches. This internship involves lots of hours walking on one of the most amazing set of beaches in the world! Three times a week, from 7am-11am and from 2pm to 6pm, the intern will walk on the beach, documenting all litter encountered and all people using the beach. Using this and other existing data, the intern will help develop a campaign targeting beach users, to educate them and attempt to ensure better litter management on the beach.

Specific tasks will include:

- Conducting beach surveys for 8 hours a day, 3 days a week
- Co-designing and producing a conservation intervention program to reduce the amount of litter being deposited locally on beaches. This will entail resource development and social media campaigns.
- Assisting with the implementation of the conservation intervention program.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Expected work hours: 8 hours per day, 5 days per week

Qualifications/skills required:

- Basic field skills of observation, use of a GPS and good data capture and management skills.
- Resource development and social media skills.
- Good people skills.
- Ability to work well in a team and independently.
- An interest in marine conservation is beneficial, and perhaps some background browsing on the topic of marine litter.
- An ability to enjoy spending time on the beach, and to have fun!

Language requirements:

English

Highlights of Organization/background information:

The Nature's Valley Trust is a small community driven NPO working at the cutting edge of integrated conservation in South Africa. We operate in four main arenas, namely Conservation, Education, Community and Research. We take a holistic view of people and the environment, and use our four programs to help shape how people live, how they view the world around them, and how they as individuals can contribute to conserving the natural world. Nestled in the magnificent Garden Route, and situated in world renowned Nature's Valley, we are a passionate group of conservationists that aim to make a practical difference with the work we do.

Note:

Accommodation, work related transport, office space, internet and project material is provided for a monthly fee of US\$300.