SoundToxins Student Internship

Duration: 6 – months. Scheduling is *extremely* flexible and works around student workload and PSI commitments. Typically meets after school every other week for 1.5-2 hrs.

Location: PSI office and Olympia Waterfront.

Sample Schedule:



Week 1: PSI Office - Meet PSI staff, tour office, prepare for SoundToxins field work.

Week 2: Port Plaza Dock - SoundToxins sampling.

Week 3: PSI Office – Plankton taxonomy and harmful algal bloom species identification.

Week 4: Port Plaza Dock - SoundToxins sampling.

Week 5: PSI lab – Screening samples for HABs and calculating Cells/L.

Week 6: Data entry – SoundToxins database and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

Week 7: Data entry and analysis: Graphing trends over time.

Week 8: Participate in a PSI-hosted stewardship event

Week 9: Participate in another PSI research project (projects vary)

Weeks 10-12: Design and conduct independent research project



Shriya and Colton, Olympia High School students, recording plankton species diversity at Port Plaza. Photo credit: Michele Burton.



Shriya and PSI attend an Olympia Surfriders "Hold Onto Your Butts!" event preventing over 4,000 cigarette butts from reaching Budd Inlet.