

Aquatic Toxicology

Ceriodaphnia dubia Food Research Intern

STEP Internship 2026

Location: Raleigh, NC
Division of Water Resources

Project/Initiative Objective

The intern will research alternative methods of preparing food (growing algae and making digested Trout Chow/alfalfa/yeast) for Ceriodaphnia dubia to maximize organism health.

Major Task to be Preformed

1. Research methods of Raphidocelis subcapitata and TCY (Trout Chow/Alfalfa/Yeast) preparation using SOPs, EPA methods, and publicly accessible research.
2. Prepare batches of Raphidocelis subcapitata and TCY.
3. Propagate and maintain a Ceriodaphnia dubia culture for use in food testing.
4. Final deliverable: Perform a North Carolina pass/fail whole effluent toxicity test to compare new foods to currently used foods.

Final Product or Outcome Anticipated

Intern will have learned how to culture Ceriodaphnia dubia and understand the basics of Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing in aquatic organisms. The final product will be a research-founded, updated method of food preparation for ATB's in-house Ceriodaphnia dubia culture.

Desired Knowledge and Skills

Knowledge of basic lab practices, knowledge of research methods, ability to communicate effectively in both written and oral form.

Academic Major(s) desired:

Biology, aquatic toxicology, environmental science

Travel Required

No