

# **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 Performed**

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