Mapping New London’s Sewer System
Geoff Pushee

My internship was with the Town of New London’s Public Works Department. My task was to successfully complete a map of the entire town’s sewer system, including all the private sectors who pump their sewage into the system. The first task was to go out with my advisor George Mooshian and mark all of the sewer manholes within the town with a Trimble unit. After completing this I then had to download the data and overlay it onto the town’s tax map. Working with Cartographic Associates out of Littleton, New Hampshire and their specially developed extension of Arc-View 9.x which is called Public Works Information Management or (PWIM) I was then able to draw in the pipes connecting the manholes, and successfully develop a sewer map for New London.

Completing this internship allowed me to help better my college education and experience in the field of environmental studies. From this internship I wanted to get real world experience and develop connections that could be useful as I enter the real world. I also wanted to continue to gain more experience with map building and map reading. I was able to accomplish all of these goals within the 240 hours that I worked, and I feel that I am much more prepared as I begin my search to find a job.

When developing the map I had to complete quite a bit of research. Through working with Flow Assessment a company out of Bedford, New Hampshire who recently completed a flow study of the town’s sewer system I was able to find out possible points of inflow for the town and develop a list of manholes for the town that need to be addressed and worked on. Also while making the map I had to look back through all of the old maps and original designs of the sewer system in order to find out the pipe sizes, pipe materials, and the direction of flow of the sewage, which are all listed within the PWIM.

Overall I am very happy that I was able to complete this internship. I think that it will benefit me far into the future, and I am glad that I was able to make so many connections and learn many new things, that would not have been possible without completing this internship. It is exciting to finally get out in the real world and be able to apply many of the objectives that I have learned throughout my four years of college, and I am now a firm believer that internships should be required for all college students before they graduate. Finally, I would like to thank everyone that helped in making this internship possible for me, and that helped me in completing my tasks.