**Summer Research Assistant – Illegal Dumping Project**

**Summary:**  
This summer research assistant position supports an innovative project focused on identifying and addressing illegal dumping hotspots in Philadelphia. The project uses 311 Service and Information Requests data to develop AI and machine learning tools aimed at improving the city’s environment. The role involves working closely with the Water Center at the University of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Parks and Recreation, contributing to a cleaner and healthier community. Ideal for those passionate about data, technology, and social impact.

**Job Responsibilities:**

* Manually review and label litter images from 311 data to categorize types of illegal dumping.
* Assist in building a high-quality training dataset to support the machine learning model development
* Contribute to fine-tuning AI models to improve the accuracy of litter image classification and predictions.
* Collaborate with team members and partners to support project goals and ensure data quality.
* Participate in regular project meetings and share progress updates.

**Qualifications:**

* Basic proficiency in Python programming.
* Experience (through coursework or projects) in data processing or machine learning is preferred.
* Strong communication skills with the ability to discuss data and machine learning concepts effectively.
* Demonstrated curiosity and enthusiasm for contributing to environmental and social good in Philadelphia.