Master Student in Urban Stormwater Treatment

Recent California legislation encourages cities to develop innovative stormwater management approaches that result in flood control and augmentation of the urban water supply while at the same time improving stormwater quality. The successful candidate will work on the development of cost-effective stormwater treatment schemes for the removal of organic stormwater contaminants such as pesticides and motor vehicle-related compounds under varying flow conditions.

We are looking for a highly motivated student to conduct an experimental master thesis for a time period of 6 months in the research group of Prof. Richard G. Luthy (https://luthygroup.stanford.edu) working closely with postdoctoral scholar Dr. Stephanie Spahr. The research will occur under the umbrella of the NSF Engineering Research Center for "Reinventing Americas Urban Water Infrastructure" (ReNUWIt).

The thesis requires lab work including bench-scale and column experiments with actual and synthetic stormwater to gain a better understanding of the mechanisms of contaminant removal in engineered stormwater treatment and infiltration systems amended with compost and biochar, for example. The thesis may include field work at our study site in Los Angeles.

Suitable candidates should have a strong interest in stormwater capture, treatment, and reuse systems. Applicants are expected to have a Bachelors degree in Environmental Engineering, Environmental Sciences, or a closely related field. Previous research experiences on water treatment, fate and transport of chemicals, and trace organic analytical chemistry will be favorable. Excellent writing and communication skills will be highly valued.

The preferred starting date is as early as January 2018 but candidates for Spring 2018 are encouraged to apply. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Stanford tuition fees will be covered and the candidate will be enrolled as a visiting student at Stanford.

We are looking forward to receiving your application. Interested candidates should send one pdf file including a brief statement of interest (max. 1 page) and a resume to Dr. Stephanie Spahr (spahrste@stanford.edu).