2012 Public Garden Management Internships

Application Deadline: February 5, 2012

Opportunity:
The Arboretum at Penn State is offering paid internship opportunities for undergraduates, graduate students, and recent graduates (two years or less since graduation) interested in career paths with botanical gardens and arboreta. Highest consideration will be given to candidates who have demonstrable interest in public gardens and can explain how this opportunity will help them to reach their career goals. For 2012, the Arboretum is offering two internships of 40 hours per week: a three-month internship (May 15, 2012 to August 15, 2012), and a six-month internship (May 15, 2012 to November 15, 2012). For students who desire University credit for the internship (e.g., HORT 495), we will work with appropriate faculty members to develop a suitable program of study.

Experience:
These opportunities will expose students to various aspects of public garden management. Although a significant amount of time will focus on day-to-day garden maintenance, other program components include plant recordkeeping and labeling, natural lands restoration, arboriculture, IPM practices, volunteer management, garden administration, marketing, and education and outreach. Interns will also be encouraged to complete an independent project that allows them to further explore an area of specific interest within the field of public garden management.

Qualifications:
Highest preference will be given to applicants who are enrolled in (or have completed) a B.S. and/or M.S. degree program in Horticulture, Forest Science, Biology, Ecology, Environmental Resource Management, Landscape Architecture, Landscape Contracting, or related fields of study, and have previous experience in hands-on landscape maintenance. Some duties will require light physical effort consisting of lifting or moving materials and products weighing between 20 and 60 lbs., and occasionally moving materials that weigh over 60 lbs. All applicants must have strong written and oral communication skills; a demonstrated willingness to work in a team environment; a strong work ethic; and an interest in management careers in public gardens.

Application:
If interested, please submit via email cover letter and resume in PDF format to:
Andrew Gapinski
Horticulturist/Volunteer Coordinator
The Arboretum at Penn State
atg10@psu.edu
(814) 865-8080

www.arboretum.psu.edu