The Nature Conservancy Wisconsin Program

Summer 2014 10 week Intern position –June 9, 2014 to August 15, 2014

To apply for The Nature Conservancy’s positions, please go to nature.org/careers.

About Us

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Since our founding in 1951, The Nature Conservancy has protected more than 117 million acres of land and 5,000 miles of rivers worldwide — and we operate more than 100 marine conservation projects globally. We have more than 1 million members and dedicated staff working in all 50 United States and more than 30 countries around the world.

Philanthropy Intern – Brief Job Description

Position Summary

The Nature Conservancy works closely with generous individuals, foundations and corporate supporters, whose gifts make a difference for our natural world. This internship with the philanthropy team will offer opportunities to enhance our engagement with donors and share information about our work in Wisconsin and across the globe. Responsibilities include creating new print and digital materials, event planning and supporting social media outreach. The internship will also involve project analysis to assess current fundraising efforts, and research to determine new prospective audiences of potential donors.

This position will be located at our office in Madison Wisconsin.

Desired Skills & Experience (education and years of experience, key competencies)

• Enrollment in a post high school level program with suggested (but not limited to) academic field in one of the following areas: communications, English, business or graphic design
• Excellent verbal and written skills
• Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and using the Internet
• Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
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**Land Steward Intern – Brief Job Description**

**Position Summary**

The Land Stewardship candidate will be working in the capacity of restoration ecology at The Nature Conservancy preserves and our partners preserves in South Central Wisconsin. As an intern in this supervised practical experience, you will spend the summer outdoors where you will learn by doing a number of tasks in broad-scale landscape restoration and management, including working in prairie, savanna, woodland, wetland, and cold-water stream habitats. The primary focus of activities is the control of invasive species, but some time will be spent on seed collecting and planting, plant ecology and identification, seed orchard maintenance, fencing and boundary posting, and endangered species monitoring. The internship will give you the opportunity to become familiar with both native and alien plants, and many specialized grassland and savanna insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. You will also learn from professional ecologists and experienced practitioners in restoration about the conservation significance and goals of the various preserves, the habitat needs of rare and declining species, and a variety of restoration techniques, strategies, and philosophies that are employed at these sites.

Interns are responsible for their travel, housing, and other living expenses, and are encouraged to carpool between residence and worksites. Sturdy work boots, gloves and clothing, as well as sun, rain, and insect protection are required. All tools will be provided. Academic credit may be available for participation in this program; each intern is responsible for making academic credit arrangements with her/his university.

**Basic Qualifications**

- High school diploma and 6 months of related experience
- Experience operating various types of equipment.
- Experience performing physical work

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Geographic Information System (GIS) Intern – Brief Job Description

Spatial and tabular data are pervasive in all facets of The Nature Conservancy, from painting a picture of hope for our donors, to identifying where and how we work and measuring the success of our work. This internship will provide a glimpse across all levels of work at TNC from local, on-the-ground weed management, to participation in a wetland prioritization project that’s part of one of our North America Freshwater Program priorities.

This position will be located at our office in Madison Wisconsin.

**Desired Skills & Experience** (education and years of experience, key competencies)

- Experience using ESRI GIS products, and the ability to learn to use the most recent version.
- Understanding of ecological principles
- Enrollment in a post high school level program in geography, biology, ecology or related field.
- Experience maintaining and populating databases and manual files.
- Experience producing maps and/or other graphic products and reports.
- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and using the Internet.

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Agricultural Stewardship Intern – Brief Job Description

Position Summary

The Nature Conservancy is embarking on a project in the Mullet River watershed in western Sheboygan County in 2014. The purpose of the project is to measure the amount of phosphorus runoff that could be eliminated with changes to farming practices. The Practitioner would work closely with the Sheboygan Project Manager to conduct soil sampling, water sampling, farmer interviews, and data entry.

Soil samples would be collected from specific fields using methods appropriate for nutrient management planning. Samples would be collected using a hand held soil probe, packaged, inventoried and shipped to a testing lab. Water samples would be collected from 28 locations in the Sheboygan River watershed on a monthly basis. Samples would be filtered, preserved, packaged, inventoried, and shipped.

Farmer interviews would be conducted to determine what cropping history, tillage practices, fertilization practices, and general management takes place on specific fields. Those data, along with other factors (field slope, soil type, etc.), would be entered into the SNAP-Plus nutrient management model to calculate a Phosphorus Index (PI) value for each field. (PI is a measure of pounds of phosphorus lost per acre per year).

The Practitioner must have a general knowledge of farming practices and be able to communicate well with farmers. They must be physically able to walk considerable distances while collecting soil samples, carrying up to 25 pounds of sample materials.

Desired Skills & Experience (education and years of experience, key competencies)

- High school diploma and working on college degree in natural resources related field
- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and using the Internet
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Able to walk in farm fields and grasslands