Horticulture and Landscape Management Internship

Applications are being accepted for Fernwood’s 8-week Horticulture and Landscape Management Internship. The internship provides a unique opportunity for students to gain practical work experience and exposure to the world of public horticulture and various aspects of natural areas management while building a strong skill set for future employment in Horticulture or Natural Areas Management. Intern may also have the chance to assist with administrative and education department tasks. This is an opportunity to gain valuable career experience in various aspects of public gardening.

Responsibilities and Expectations
Students will alternate between working in various garden areas, the arboretum, tall grass prairie and the preserve. Daily routine will involve all aspects of botanical garden maintenance including: the use of proper horticultural practices (planting, pruning, weed management, soil fertilization, and irrigation), renovation, construction of new gardens, labeling, plant record keeping, and public education. Students will also participate in managing the trails throughout the preserve, repairing or replacing broken infrastructure and implementation of invasive species control protocols.

Interns will be expected to showcase a professional, friendly, and helpful attitude when engaging guests while completing garden tasks in a timely and quality manner. Students are expected to work in all tolerable weather conditions and be able to lift at least 30 pounds.

Compensation
Interns will be paid an hourly wage for their work at the rate of $15.00/hr. for 8 weeks. The weekly work schedule is Tuesday through Friday and a Saturday/Sunday option, 8:30am-5pm (32 hours per week). Occasionally selected evenings and weekends will require extended hours and adjustments to the weekly schedule.

Dress Code and Tools
- pants, shirts: student’s choice of clean and neat shorts or pants worn to the waist (no sagging, no writing, rips, tears, etc.)
- shoes: Closed-toe work shoes and boots are recommended
- hats/sunglasses/sunscreen recommended
- All other necessary tools will be provided

Applicant Guidelines
All interested students are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to those with the following:
- Access to a car with a valid driver’s license.
• Current enrollment in a college or university
• Studying horticulture, forestry, landscape management, restoration ecology or related subjects.

Other Information
Candidates will be contacted via phone for an initial phone interview. In-person interviews will take place at Fernwood. For questions, contact Director of Horticulture, Dave Halvax, at dhalvax@fernwoodbotanical.org.