Resource Management Career Immersion Internship

Position: Resource Management Crew Intern

Gain practical, on-the-ground experience working with Forest Preserve Resource Management Crews and other natural resource professionals. Interns learn what it’s like to manage the Forest Preserves of Cook County in a highly urbanized setting. Extensive training and certifications such as State of Illinois Herbicide License and chainsaw safety are offered. Work involves using chainsaws and other equipment to manage hazardous trees as well as for ecological restoration projects. Expect to be on your feet all day working hard outdoors, and getting dirty. Opportunities for interns to meet experts in their chosen field and grow professional networks are provided. Field stations are not adjacent to public transportation; therefore, personal vehicles will be required to reach the work site each day. Work locations: Oak Forest, Elk Grove Village, Skokie, Western Springs, and Willow Springs (IL). 10 positions are available.

Duties:
- Work outside all day conducting physically strenuous hands-on projects in all weather conditions
- Identify and remove potentially hazardous trees and conduct other woody vegetation maintenance
- Conduct invasive species removal by hand, using herbicide, brush pile burning, or using power equipment (brush cutters, chain saws)
- Assist crew members with heavy equipment operation such as front-end loaders and wood chippers
- Assist with inspecting Forest Preserve trails and identify areas requiring maintenance and upkeep
- Assist crews on ecosystem restoration projects utilizing a variety of techniques and tools

Qualifications:
- Must be at least 18 years of age; must possess a current valid driver’s license
- Must be working towards or possess a bachelor’s degree in a field associated with Forestry, Ecology, or similar
- Those not in college or without a degree are encouraged to apply if they have at least 6 months of experience working with a landscape company or similar, utilizing hand and power tools, or other outdoor manual work
- Must have ability to work in a team setting
- Capability to work outdoors 5-days a week in a variety of weather conditions, performing physically strenuous tasks and work, including but not limited to: climbing, lifting, pulling, and moving objects that weigh up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to follow instructions and carry out related duties as assigned
- Ability to identify plants that are native and invasive to Cook County is a plus
- Must be interested in the field of Natural Resource Management; any experience in the field a plus

Benefits:
- $12.75 per hour (10 weeks, 37.5 hours per week)
- Excellent networking and environmental enrichment opportunities

Application Deadline: April 14th, 2017. Positions are filled on a rolling basis. Apply early for highest consideration

How to Apply: Send cover letter and resume to Melissa Horther at jobs.fotfp@gmail.com; please make sure to include your cover letter and resume in a single document labeled with your last name and the words “RM internship”. Example: Smith_RM_internship

Program Timeframe: 10 weeks, Monday, June 5th – Friday, August 11th, 2017

Internship Partners Information: www.fpdcc.com and www.fotfp.org

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