POSITION: Horticulture Intern

The Kiawah Conservancy seeks candidates for the position of Horticulture Intern. This part-time internship is open until filled.

About Kiawah Conservancy: The Kiawah Conservancy (Conservancy) is an accredited and well-respected local land trust, having protected 51 properties totaling 2,273 acres on and around Kiawah Island, South Carolina. For over 20 years, the Conservancy has worked to protect important natural habitats for plants and wildlife, to research the ecological components that contribute to the sustainability of Kiawah Island’s unique flora and fauna, to implement habitat restoration programs, and to connect people with nature. The Kiawah Conservancy maintains an office with a full-time staff of four at Kiawah Island and is an equal opportunity employer that values the diversity of all kinds in the workplace. Visit kiawahconservancy.org for more information.

About the Position: Candidates for this position will be prepared to provide assistance in a variety of roles, with a focus on maintaining the Naturally Kiawah Demonstration Garden and Maritime Forest Reserve and Nature Trail.

The intern will work under the direct supervision of the Executive Director, with training provided by the Garden’s landscape architect and the Garden Keeper coordinators. Through discussion-based learning and practical, hands-on experience, the intern will perform the daily tasks, up-keep, and responsibilities of a public garden and nature trail as well as the coordination of volunteer personnel.

Duties included are annual and perennial plant management, woody plant care, knowledge and understanding of the importance of native plants, invasive plant management, trail and pathway management, sign upkeep, volunteer management, and more. Interns are required to set goals for their internships, which the Kiawah Conservancy will strive to help them meet. Weekly progress meetings are held to evaluate where the intern is excelling, needs improvement, and whether or not goals are being met.

Duties and Responsibilities:
- General horticulture tasks include but are not limited to: planting, pruning, weeding, watering, fertilizing, and animal/insect control
- Working with volunteers
- Placing honorary and memorial bricks in the Garden
- Upkeep signage and pathways
- Attending and providing information at Garden/Trail education programs
- Training, operating, and using small power equipment (i.e. backpack blower)
- Attending weekly progress meetings to review strengths, weaknesses, and to assess goals

Applicant Requirements: Applicants should have a strong working knowledge of South Carolina’s native plants and invasive species of concern. Applicants must be enrolled in a college or university horticulture or related program, or have recently graduated from one. Applicants must be legally able to work in the United States. All applicants must be able to perform strenuous work in heat and humidity with exposure to biting and stinging insects and poison ivy.
Hours, Location, & Compensation: This is a paid internship of $12.00 - $15.00 an hour (commensurate with experience) with an expected 30-hour workweek. Hours may include some nights and weekends. The Kiawah Conservancy office, Naturally Kiawah Demonstration Garden, and Maritime Forest Reserve and Nature Trail are located on Kiawah Island, South Carolina. The applicant is responsible for providing his or her own housing and transportation.

Instructions for Applying: To apply, please submit a cover letter explaining your interest in this internship and your horticultural interests and goals, a résumé, and unofficial transcript. Please apply either by e-mail to Jennifer Woody (jennifer@kiawahconservancy.org), format documents as PDF files, and put the subject as “Horticulture Internship”, or by mail to:

Kiawah Conservancy
Attn: Jennifer Woody
80 Kestrel Court
Kiawah Island, SC 29455

No phone calls, please. Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2019. Anticipated start date is March 1, 2019.

Job Type: Part-time, Internship

The Kiawah Conservancy is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status.