



2012 Natural Areas Research Internship

Natural Areas Research Internship

The Natural Areas Research Internship position will provide an introduction to methods of assessing the condition of and changes in vegetation in natural areas. Previous experience with vegetation or other ecological sampling methods will be helpful.

Sampling techniques allow natural areas managers to

- monitor populations of rare or declining species.
- document changes over time.
- evaluate the effectiveness of invasive species control measures.

Plantations Natural Areas Program manages over 30 Cornell-owned nature preserves both on- and off-campus, totaling about 4,300 acres. These natural areas are biologically diverse, and include examples of most of the ecological communities or habitats found in the region. Several of the sites are important for the protection of rare species.

As an intern you will work closely with the Natural Areas staff on a variety of tasks such as

- vegetation sampling,
- rare plant monitoring and protection,
- trail maintenance and
- invasive species control.

Plant identification is basic to much of this work and frequent opportunities to improve your skills will be presented.

Your own special project is a possible part of the internship.

Each Monday from June to August interns will participate in Learning Mondays, a series of workshops that may include field trips or educational activities about the diverse work of a public garden. Some time is set aside on each Learning Monday for Capturing Your Experience.

To Apply: Please complete the on-line application form and click submit.

General Program Information

Cornell Plantations internship program is open to all currently enrolled or accepted **Cornell University students**. Plantations recognizes that an internship is an opportunity to try out a career field. While we encourage applications from those with plant or natural sciences coursework or relevant work experience, we also welcome applications from students that are enthusiastic about the natural world and can articulate their interest in our program.

Goal

Provide an educational and work experience for Cornell University students involving hands-on activities that build on classroom learning and represent the full spectrum of work throughout our organization.

Vision

We view our interns foremost as learners who offer a valuable fresh perspective. We treat each student as a professional team member and part of the Plantations family. Our staff is committed to the program, offering mentorship, guidance, and appreciation for each intern's contribution.

Our program's schedule is designed to offer all students exposure to the varied aspects of public garden and natural areas management.

For more information or questions on the general details of the internship program, contact Phil Syphrit at 607-227-5795 or plantationsintern@cornell.edu or see our website www.cornellplantations.org