

Summer 2012 Internships
McHenry County Conservation District

- POSITION:** **Rare Plant Monitoring Intern– Glacial Park, Ringwood, IL**
- DEPARTMENT:** **Natural Resource Management**
- DISCIPLINES:** **Natural Resource Management or Biology**
- JOB DESCRIPTION:** Primary outdoor duties include: rare plant monitoring using established protocols to assess the status of rare, state listed, and federally listed species on District sites. Intern may need to coordinate and supervise volunteers to complete the monitoring. May also assist in: baseline plant surveys, quantitative plant community monitoring, native plant seed collection and processing, seeding projects, and herbarium specimen preparation. Indoor activities may include: completion of paper monitoring forms, data entry, and data analysis.
- EDUCATIONAL VALUE:** Intern will gain an understanding of vegetation monitoring methods, and will improve identification skills of Midwestern native plants and their communities through outdoor botanical data collection and indoor work with a dissecting microscope and dichotomous plant keys. Intern will gain experience in volunteer coordination and supervision. Intern will also gain experience in collecting, managing, and analyzing botanical and geographical data with Microsoft Excel, GPS units, and ArcMap GIS software. Furthermore, intern will have the opportunity to learn about the operations of other MCCD departments, such as Planning & Development, Natural Resource Management, Police, Wildlife Resources, Communications and/or Land & Facilities.
- QUALIFICATIONS & WORKING CONDITIONS:** Applicants should be in the process of obtaining a Bachelors degree relating to the field of biology or natural resources, or possess equivalent knowledge and experience working in the field of biology or natural resources. Native plant identification skills and volunteer coordination and/or supervision skills preferred. A valid motor vehicle operator's license. Illinois Pesticide Operator License, or willing to obtain one while on the job. Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, ArcMap GIS software, and in utilizing GPS units. Involves work in all outdoor weather conditions as well as some indoor work. Work involves regular heavy lifting (up to 50 lbs). Prolonged periods of time spent walking, sitting and standing. Applicant will usually work in a group setting; however, will be required on occasion to work independently. Requires a sighted individual to accurately identify plants. This work also requires an individual with normal hearing for interacting with employees and public. Possible work hazards include use of power equipment (i.e. string trimmers, atv, etc) and pesticide exposure.
- SCHEDULE:** 12 weeks beginning May 14, 2012; 40 hour work week Monday through Friday, usually 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- WAGES & BENEFITS:** \$8.25 per hour, college credit as approved by applicant's institution and advisor. On-site housing available on a first-come basis at a cost of \$50 per week.
- APPLICATION:** Send cover letter, resume, employment application, dates of availability, and (unofficial) transcript. Application due by April 6, 2012.

McHenry County Conservation District
Attn: HR
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