

Position Title: Agricultural Stewardship Intern

Date: March 21, 2019

Supervisor: Senior Conservation Project Manager

Status: Non Exempt, Full-Time, Hourly (40 hours), Seasonal Mid-May Through Mid-August (Flexible Start and End Dates)

Job Summary: The Agricultural Stewardship Intern will assist with sustainable agriculture and land stewardship duties at both of the Conservancy-owned farms: Misty Acres and Maple Bay. The intern will gain hands-on experience of property management, agricultural systems including rotational grazing (grass-fed beef operation), rotational pasture management, soil building, site prep and installation of pollinator habitat.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. General property management assistance - repairs, farm and landscape maintenance, including native landscaping (40%)
2. Assist with implementation of rotational grazing program at Misty Acres (30%). This will include calculating and preparing grazing paddocks as well as field observations of cattle and forage conditions.
3. Assist with soil building, site prep, and installation of pollinator habitat at Misty Acres and Maple Bay Farm (15%)
4. Assist with planning and implementing volunteer work days with other staff (10%)
5. Other duties as assigned, including working with staff on various tasks and shadowing other positions (5%)

Supervisory Responsibilities: This position will not be responsible for supervisory role other than occasional work as co-lead of volunteer work day projects.

Work Environment: Majority of the work will be outdoors, with some indoor planning and meetings. Housing on site is provided free of charge at Misty Acres, with a signed lease. Work space, including internet and computer, will be available on site. Occasional evenings and weekends required, flexible schedule. This position is stationed at the Misty Acres Farm, however, travel within the 5-county service region of the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy is required. A shared work vehicle will be stationed at Misty Acres and is available for work purposes. Additional travel, as required for duties, using a personal vehicle will be compensated according to GTRLC mileage reimbursement rate.

Opportunities: GTRLC has 24 employees, a robust volunteer program, connections to numerous landowners, and partnerships with governmental agencies and other non-profits. Interning with us provides numerous opportunities to interact with, learn about, and to explore many facets of our work and community. Specific opportunities available for this position include:

1. Firsthand observation of the work of non-profit sector, specifically land conservation work.
2. Involvement with on-the-ground demonstration of land use that integrates conservation, agriculture, and community.
3. Working with various staff, volunteers, and others to experience different roles, work styles, and perspectives on our work.
4. Working to enhance native habitat as part of the agricultural and natural landscape.

5. Ability to explore and implement independent projects that achieve your personal development goals and areas of interest while adding value to our work.
6. Gain experience with rotationally grazed grass-fed cow/calf and beef finishing operation.
7. Gain experience with goats and invasive species management
8. Gain experience with volunteer coordination
9. Observe and assist with project management, basic farm management, budgeting, and project and farm planning activities.
10. Live and recreate in beautiful and northern Michigan during the summer months.

Physical Factors: Ability to work outdoors and moderate to heavy lifting to carry necessary equipment and supplies. There may be standing for long periods of time at events. Indoor environment is in shared/common office space with common work station. Occasional work in rough terrain and inclement weather.

Education and Experience: This position requires a basic level of experience working on a farm operation including animal care and general farm maintenance. Position also requires a strong interest along with some education or training in Natural Resource Management and sustainable farming practices.

Minimum Qualifications (Knowledge, Training, Abilities)

1. Relevant farm related job training/experience
2. Two years of education towards a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture, Natural Resources, or related field.
3. Ability and willingness to operate farm equipment and machinery
4. Ability and willingness to perform potentially strenuous activities outdoors in variable and adverse weather conditions
5. Ability to work independently while communicating regularly with supervisor
6. Ability to maintain a positive, professional, and courteous attitude
7. Ability to work as part of a team
8. Valid MI Drivers License and reliable transportation (ability to drive manual transmission vehicles preferred)
9. Position is subject to a background check

How to Apply: Please submit your resume and Cover letter via email to dbroadway@gtrlc.org with the position title in the subject line. Priority consideration will be given to candidates applying before Monday, April 8, 2019.