



21603 Beauford Lane
Northville, MI 48167
(248) 840-0248
plp_gina@me.com
www.PeaceLoveandPlanet.org

ANNOUNCEMENT

Environmental non-profit seeks intern for recycling initiative

Peace, Love & Planet, Inc. (PLP), a grassroots, non-profit organization is looking for a part-time intern to assist with its 2010 Spring/Summer metro-Detroit plastic recovery program. Since 2008, PLP has been collecting plastic garden waste generated during the spring and summer planting season. In 2009, we prevented over 10,000 pounds of recyclable material from being needlessly dumped in our local landfills. We have expanded our initiative for 2010 and anticipate collections to more than triple!

This position is suited for someone seeking a challenging experience that will provide first-hand knowledge of real world issues central to the conservation economy. Ideal candidates are planning for a future career in environmental studies, planet preservation, the agricultural industry, or community outreach.

Responsibilities:

- Help promote social and environmental change in the community by implementing plastic recovery initiatives throughout metro Detroit
- Recruit farmers, landscapers and general public to recycle garden plastic
- Attend farmers markets and assist customers with recycling
- Sort, stack and prepare plastic for pick-up
- Attend festivals to assist in children in awareness programming and flower crafting
- Potential for publishing weekly blogs and updates to Peace, Love & Planet website

Qualifications:

- High school diploma with interest in pursuing environmental studies or related field
- Self motivated and reliable
- Drivers license
- Able to give directions and assist adults and children in a friendly manner
- Willing to complete tasks under sometimes hot and dirty conditions
- Flexible schedule



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Terms:

- Start date: May 6th, 2010
- Location: Northville, Michigan. Location varies according to schedule.
- Commitment: Minimum 8 hours/week through August.
- Hours: Thursday or Saturday mornings 7:am–3 with some flexibility
- Intern must be self motivated, work well with others, enthusiastic and committed to safeguarding the environment
- Compensation: This is paid internship and candidate may receive credit if their educational institution allows it. A candidate who successfully completes the internship will receive \$500, letter(s) of recommendation, career building, invaluable experience in the field of recycling as well as excellent contacts in the horticultural landscaping and nursery industries.

To apply

- Complete the application on the next page, and mail it (hard copy) with a resume and two references with contact information. You will be contacted within a week regarding an interview.

Internship Application

Complete, then mail with resume and two references to Gina Adams-Levy at address above.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ **Best way to reach you:** ___ email ___ phone

Are you currently in college? ___ yes ___ no

If yes, what are you studying?

Why do you want to be an intern at Peace, Love & Planet? What do you hope to gain from the experience?

What knowledge or skills do you bring?

Can you commit to at least 8 hours a week?

___ yes ___ no

Do you have transportation?

___ yes ___ no

Is there anything that is important for us to know in considering your application?

2010 RECYCLING PROGRAM



Program description and guidelines

Plastic recovery and recycling

Brief History

As we anxiously await for spring planting season to commence, keep in mind our intentions and be mindful of the results. With any luck our gardens will flourish but what about the heaping piles of plastic containers, trays and annual cells? To be precise, *350 million pounds of garden plastic waste is generated annually of which only 6.8% is recycled. Very few recycling centers recycle Polypropylene (#5) and Polystyrene (#6) plastics. Peace, Love & Planet (PLP) was initiated to provide alternatives for garden plastic waste.

* Michigan Nursery and Landscaping Association. <http://www.mnla.org/industry>

Collaborative Opportunities

PLP strives to encourage participation and industry responsibility in resource utilization and recycling. We provide beneficial alternatives for plastic disposal to farmers, landscapers, nurseries and end consumers. Recycling saves businesses hefty waste removal fees while greatly reducing precious nonrenewable resource consumption. This recycling program for the landscaping industry is met with mixed emotions; enthusiasm and circumspection. I recommend for the skeptics to look at committed nurseries such as Plymouth Nursery and Goldner Walsh Nursery (who has been recycling for over three years). Both nurseries have not only saved over \$1,000 annually in waste removal fees but have significantly reduced their landscaping carbon footprint. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to reduce your business waste removal expenses and become a true “green” partner.



Fig1. #2 and #5 containers can be combined.

Fig 2. Stack #6 trays and annual cells together.

Fig 3. Annual cell stacking method.

Recycling Guidelines

All participating nurseries must agree to proper plastic preparation for recycling. Remember, *collaboration is instrumental to success of program*. Peace, Love & Planet is a federally recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit and runs on 100% volunteer basis. The continuation and expansion of program depends on you! If guidelines are not followed we will not be able to collect your plastic and sadly this program may cease to exist.

1. **What can be recycled?** New this year, we can collect Copolymer greenhouse plastic that has been folded and either baled or secured. Additionally, we can recycle:
 - a. #2 High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) containers
 - b. #5 Polypropylene (PP) containers
 - c. #6 Polystyrene (PS) annual cells and trays



Fig 4. Example of metal clip.

2. **Prepare.** Knock out dirt. Remove all metal clips used to affix plant tags to pots. **Metal must be removed** or will cause severe damage to recycling grinder. (See Fig 4.)
3. **Sort** All plastic must be sorted by number:
 - #2 and #5 containers can be stacked together. (See Fig 1 for clarification)
 - #6 trays and cells stacked together. (See Fig 2 and 3.)
4. **Consolidate** Plastic can be baled or consolidated, stacked on wood pallets and wrapped in industrial cellophane in preparation for recycling. (See photo pg 1.) For smaller quantities, stack and drop off at consolidation site.
5. **Recycle**
 - A. **Drop off.** Bring sorted and stacked (or baled) plastic to consolidation center while conveniently picking up your next supply of plants. Follow signage and add stacks to designated corral. *No charge for drop off but donations are greatly appreciated!*

Christensen's Wholesale Plant Center
 6282 Gotfredsen Rd.
 Plymouth Township MI 48170
 1-888-454-8733

*Note: Enter drive on west side of Gotfredson Rd. just north of Karl's Cabin restaurant. Follow back until you see plastic corrals. Consolidate your plastic with existing stacks.

- B. Consolidate on your premises. For a small fee we can arrange to pick up your plastic. Plastic can be sorted, stacked and wrapped on pallets. (See front page for example.) Simply call to schedule pick up @ (248) 840-0248 once you have **NO DUMPING** The success and continuation of recycling program depends on you, the participant. Please be helpful and recycle thoughtfully. **Share this document with your staff.** PLP will be happy to assist employees and review guidelines at the beginning of season. Remind employees to stack cells and pots as they are planting to save time and make recycling easier for everyone.



6. Cost

Provided plastic is prepared as requested, we can offer these services for relatively little costs. However, we reserve the right to decline plastic either drop-off or pick up due to lack of preparation.

OPTIONS	COST
Drop off at site	*FREE
Collect at event	*50
Arrange plastic pickup for your prepared plastic at your location.	A. 26 prepared pallets =free B. Less then 26 pallets = *TBD

*We will gladly collect partial quantities for a fee. This cost will depend on store location and other variables. Please contact for a quote. (248) 840-0248

8. Farmers markets and Special events

PLP can provide a 5X8' collection trailer for any event such as, farmers markets, flower swaps and garden tours.

- a. Trailer will be dropped off before market opening and picked up at closing.
- b. Market responsible for providing one volunteer to assist in recycle etiquette during market hours.
- c. Farmers are encouraged to take any plastic for "reuse". In exchange, PLP request 15-30 minutes of volunteer time to consolidate plastic during market hours.
- d. Peace, Love & Planet requests permission to have donation box affixed to trailer during collection time.
- e. Remember, your event will be promoted throughout metro Detroit as part of the PLP garden plastic recovery initiative!

Final Destination

Once plastic is collected it will be taken to the recycle center where it will be grounded into pellets and made into new products.

Of course any tax deductible monetary donation is greatly appreciated and will to help offset program costs. Thank you for being a pioneer in the industry and helping develop a new sustainable method in garden plastic disposal. Your commitment to resource conservation and planet protection will benefit future generations. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.

We look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Gina Adams-Levy
Executive Director



Peace, Love & Planet

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2010 Recycling Program