



Research Assistant: Climate Change and Forest Health

A research assistant position is available in the Silviculture and Dendrochronology lab of Dr. Steve Chhin in the Department of Forestry at Michigan State University (MSU).

The research assistant will primarily conduct field and laboratory work for a project funded by the USDA Forest Service (Forest Health Monitoring program). The objective of this project will be to examine the interactive effects of drought, other climatic factors, and biotic factors (intraspecific competition) on growth and mortality rates in pine forests affected by Diplodia (*Diplodia pinea*) shoot blight in Michigan. The research technician will also provide assistance on other projects in the Chhin lab.

The period of the position is from September 1, 2011 – July 31, 2012 and will involve working 40 hrs/week. Salary will depend on experience but will be at least \$11/hour.

Qualifications: Applicants should preferably have completed a BS in forestry, biology, ecology, environmental sciences, or a similarly related natural resource field. Advanced undergraduates will also be considered. Preference will be given to applicants that are highly self-motivated, possess a strong work ethic, and have strong communication skills. A background or strong interest in conducting field based research and working in a laboratory environment is desirable. A cumulative GPA greater than 3.0 in undergraduate coursework is desirable.

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information of three references. Applications will be considered immediately and continue until the position is filled. To ensure full consideration please submit material by **August 23, 2011**. Please e-mail all application material to Dr. Steve Chhin (chhin@msu.edu).

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Steve Chhin
Assistant Professor
Department of Forestry
Michigan State University
126 Natural Resources Building
East Lansing, MI 48824-1222
Tel: (517) 353-7251
Fax: (517) 432-1143
E-mail: chhin@msu.edu
Web: <https://www.msu.edu/~chhin/>