POSITION DESCRIPTION

Openspace Program Intern,
Urban Agriculture and Openspace Department

Posting Date: March 26, 2012
Application Deadline: May 4, 2012
Salary: This is an unpaid internship
Main Office: The Greening of Detroit, 1418 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI 48216
Secondary Locations: Brightmoor, Northend, and Corktown communities, Detroit
Schedule: Part-time Seasonal, Mid-May thru Mid-August, occasional evening and weekend hours

Organizational Description:
The Greening of Detroit’s mission is to “guide and inspire the growth of a ‘greener’ Detroit through planting and educational programs, environmental leadership, advocacy, and by building community capacity.” One of the ways The Greening engages the community to achieve this mission is through urban gardening and agriculture projects. Since 2003, The Greening of Detroit has been at the forefront of an emerging movement to achieve a ‘greener’ city while transforming the food system in Detroit. Our accomplishments include working with our partners in The Garden Resource Program to provide farming resources and educational opportunities to over 15,000 urban gardeners of all ages each year in the cities of Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park and operating multiple urban farms and nutrition education programs across the City.

Position Summary:
The Greening of Detroit is seeking a candidate for a part-time, seasonal intern to support the Openspace Team within the Urban Agriculture and Openspace (UAO) Department. The Openspace Team works to engage Detroit residents in addressing vacant land issues in their neighborhoods. We leverage resources and expertise to support the planning and implementation of greenspace projects that build community capacity and connections, strengthen existing assets, and physically transform vacant lots into productive community spaces. The Openspace Intern will support the implementation and maintenance of Openspace projects, which include: community and market gardens, fruit orchards, pocket parks, tree plantings, and initial cleaning and clearing of vacant lots. The Intern will also assist in evaluation of Openspace projects to assess their impact on the community and current condition in order to improve future implementation. The Openspace Program Intern reports to the Openspace Program Coordinator.

Duties and Responsibilities:
• Coordinate and supervise volunteer workdays in the field.
• Assist with site design and prep work.
• Work with community partners and workforce crews to implement projects.
• Assist with refining project evaluation tools and database management.
• Conduct community partner and field surveys to evaluate Openspace projects.
• Provide general support to Openspace Team as needed.
Qualifications:

• The ideal candidate will have demonstrated leadership capacity and experience working with volunteer groups.

• Experience working with diverse communities, interest and familiarity with Detroit and its neighborhoods; and with issues relating to local food, food access, urban planning, and a genuine appreciation of the urban environment.

• Landscaping or gardening experience with basic knowledge of tree, shrub, and perennial flower species common in Michigan. Experience with creating landscape plans preferred.

• All candidates must have a valid drivers license. A chauffeur’s license is preferred.

• Strong organizational and written/verbal communication skills, ability to work independently and as part of a team.

• Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications required; experience with Indesign, Google Sketchup, and/or ArcGIS software preferred.

• Flexible schedule with ability to work days, evenings, or weekends as needed.

How to Apply:
Please send an email with your resume, cover letter and availability to sarahhay@greeningofdetroit.com. Use the job title as the subject line. Only potential interviewees will be contacted. Visit our website at www.detroitagriculture.net

The Greening of Detroit is an Equal Opportunity Employer.