The Greening of Detroit
Citizen Forester Data Assistant
Internship Description

DATE: January 8, 2014
POSITION: Citizen Forester Data Assistant
START DATE: February 2, 2015
SALARY: Internship Credit
CONTACT: Kristin Martinez, 313.285.2234

Organizational Description: The Greening of Detroit is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working with neighborhoods, community groups, schools, churches and businesses to grow a greener Detroit through planting and educational programs, environmental leadership, advocacy and by building community capacity. For the past 20 years we have been working to reforest the City of Detroit. We are currently planting and distributing approximately 8,000 trees per year in the city of Detroit. We work closely with the City of Detroit’s General Services, Planning and Recreation Departments as well as neighborhood block clubs from throughout the city to complete this work.

Program Summary: The Citizen Forester program is a volunteer and education program that was developed in response to the organization’s need to manage the large number of volunteers that come out to participate in the Greening of Detroit’s weekend tree plantings.

As a Citizen Forester, many skills are utilized during tree plantings. A working knowledge of tree identification and maintenance techniques are often necessary as well as volunteer management and community engagement techniques as Citizen Foresters are intricately involved in planting trees, overseeing volunteers and communicating with neighborhood residents.

In response to this need an education series was developed by Greening of Detroit staff which includes training in:

• Community Engagement
• Volunteer Management
• Public Speaking
• Tree Identification,
• Tree Identification Fieldwork
• Maintenance and Pruning
• Maintenance and Pruning Fieldwork
• Dendroremediation Overview and Best Practices

These additional courses support the initial day long training that introduces new Citizen Foresters to the Greening of Detroit’s mission, practices and tree planting methods.

Position Summary: The Citizen Forester Data Assistant will be working primarily with the Environmental Education Manager and Citizen Forester Assistant to create and implement programming surrounding OpenTree Map (see https://www.opentreemap.org/latreemap/ for an example of how this programming is used), a new community engagement and data management initiative being piloted by Green Infrastructure staff in Spring, 2015.
Work Environment: The Citizen Forester Data Assistant will work both in the field and the office. Fridays and Saturdays are required from mid March-mid June. The rest of the work week is flexible.

Required Skills:
The ideal candidate will possess a working knowledge of taxonomy and tree identification, or the ability to learn quickly. They will also maintain a positive and professional attitude when interacting with staff and volunteers, as troubleshooting with volunteers using the OpenTree Map application will be a primary internship responsibility. Lastly, the ideal candidate will have exceptional organizational and data management skills and be able to meet regularly scheduled deadlines.

Duties and Responsibilities:

• Assist in creating OpenTree Map training and protocol for both the Citizen Forester program and general volunteers
• Assist in creating a comprehensive tree id guide that includes every species of tree that The Greening of Detroit plants
• Assist in creating individual tree guides that correlate with tree planting events
• Trouble shoot with volunteers and Citizen Foresters during tree planting events when OpenTree Map questions arise
• Conduct inventory events after each planting to ensure that OpenTree Map data is clean and accurate
• Connect with community groups prior to community tree plantings to teach them how to use OpenTree Map during tree planting events
• Oversee and coordinate data associated with OpenTree Map project

Please send resume and cover letter by January 30th, 2015 to Kristin Martinez at Kristin@greeningofdetroit.com Or: Kristin Martinez, Environmental Education Manager at 1418 Michigan Ave. Detroit, Mi. 48216 (Fax) 313.285.2234