Dow Garden’s Internship Job Description

The Dow Gardens is a 110 acre public garden situated on the former Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Estate. The Gardens continues today as an agency of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation. Our mission statement is as follow: The Dow Gardens exists to preserve the history, enhance the horticulture beauty and share the educational and leisure opportunities of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Estate.

Internship Overview

Our internship program will be an enhancement of real-world horticultural skills, hands-on training and exposure to all aspects of work associated in a public garden. The interns will have the opportunity to rotate through full time staff assisting with a wide variety of garden and event tasks. They will also complete a special project or enroll with a certain educational focus. Before departure, a presentation of their developed skills and knowledge will be presented to our staff. The interns will be provided with pay and housing.

Expectations

• Perform mandatory operational tasks necessary to maintain landscape in preparation for visitors and events
• Work under the advisement of a mentor on a special project or focus
• Develop time management and prioritization in regards to weather, public interaction, events, and daily operational tasks
• Set and execute goals in multiple working environments (Parking lot, Children’s Garden, Rose Garden, Ponds, Forest, etc.)
• Develop specific skill sets from various staff
• Achieve a basic understanding of various job aspects within a public garden (Public Relations, Programming, Mapping, IPM, Horticulture, Arboriculture)
• Receive training on small and large equipment (mowers, bobcat, tractor, golf carts, chipper, etc.)
• Educate and communicate with garden guests (assist with giving tours, classes, and answering questions)
• Learn specific IPM strategies and the demonstration of chemical safety
• Stay up to date on procedures, policies, training, safety that are introduced at the beginning of program
• Additional duties as requested
• 40 Hour work week for a semester or a working season (minimum of 14 weeks)

Preferred Qualifications

• Enrolled in a horticulture program or related field
  • Biology, Horticulture, Plant Sciences, Soil Sciences, Entomology, Forestry, Landscape Arch.
• Education level considered
  • Juniors and Seniors pursuing a bachelor degree
  • Second year in an Associate of Science
• Ability to work in extreme weather conditions
• Possess a valid driver’s license

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