

LANDSCAPE AND NURSERY INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW & REQUIREMENTS

It is the student's responsibility to set-up their internship with approval from their coordinator prior to accepting employment. Spring semester courses for Ag Tech students are condensed and conclude at the end of March. Typically, students begin their internships in April and work through mid-August. You're required to seek new or expanded work opportunities for your internship rather than return to familiar employers. You must complete a minimum of 480 hours of work to fulfill the internship requirements.

Ag Tech students also have the opportunity to participate in a *Study Abroad Program*, so contact your advisor if interested. Study abroad is *not* a substitute for your internship but would compliment your educational experience.

Characteristics of an Internship Experience:

- Employment with a reputable business, garden/estate/arboretum or other green industry organization.
- You have experienced green industry mentor(s)/supervisor(s).
- Offer a format where the student can apply classroom information to their responsibilities on the job.
- Provide a diversity of experiences and activities; ideally rotating through various divisions of the business/organization, i.e., mowing lawns all season is not diverse or appropriate for a landscape/nursery student.
- Expose the student to **new** aspects of the green industry, equipment, plants, and plant-related activities (field days/trips, seminars or workshops sponsored by Extension Service, Professional associations, or in-house).
- Provide the student with a perspective on their future career options.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE STUDENT:

1. Write-up goals and objectives for what you want to accomplish during/through your internship. (Due to advisor in HRT 215, prior to securing your position.)
2. Complete all MSU forms/reports in a timely manner (That means turn them in on time!).
3. Help coordinate a time to meet with your program coordinator and your supervisor during the internship.
4. Keep a typed daily or weekly journal, which is turned-in at the beginning of September.
5. Create picture documentation of your activities, co-workers, job sites, etc., which will be turned in at the end of the internship. Pictures are to be used in your Power Point presentation (see below).
6. Present a short presentation about your experience to the freshman class the following semester. You are required to give your presentation using Power Point.