

# Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

## Ecological Restoration Internship

For the summer Ecological Restoration Internship Program, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy is looking for 3-6 highly motivated students to assist with ecological restoration efforts in the city park system.

This program will be offered twice-per year, during the summer and fall. Interns are expected to average 10 hours of work per week over the course of 14 weeks, generally consisting of 7 hours of field work, and 3 hours of independent study each week. This is an un-paid internship, however university credit may be awarded for successful completion of this program.

### Work will consist of:

- On-the ground maintenance of existing restoration sites
- Invasive species identification and management
- Deer fence construction or maintenance
- Data collection for monitoring of restoration outcomes
- Interpreting scientific literature and field conditions to inform adaptive management
- Employment of active regeneration techniques (planting, seeding, etc)
- Working with and instructing volunteer groups
- Independent project due at end of internship

### Requirements for Eligibility:

- Interns must be able available for a full day of field work from 8am-3pm
  - Summer internship will have field work on Tuesdays
  - Fall internship will have field work on Fridays
- Ability and eagerness to perform outdoor field work, often off-trail, in all weather conditions
- Completion of a Foundations of Ecology course, or demonstration of equivalent knowledge/coursework
- Species identification skills or an eagerness to learn
- Willingness to travel to and work in park locations throughout the city
- Attention to detail and ability to follow protocols

Critical thinkers and those motivated to apply known concepts and posit new ideas are particularly encouraged to apply.

### To apply:

Please contact Robin ([reng@pittsburghparks.org](mailto:reng@pittsburghparks.org)) with a resume, a most recent transcript (unofficial is fine), two references (one must be professional/academic), and a cover letter including your responses to the following application questions:

- Why do you want to participate in this internship?
- What is your favorite environmental/ecological subject and why?
- What do you consider a major threat to the ecology of Pittsburgh's forest ecosystems?
- What do you most appreciate about the Pittsburgh Parks?
- Is there anything else you would like us to know?