

Internships in Ecological Restoration: Summer 2012

Two internships in **ecological restoration** will be available in the summer of 2012 through the Savanna Oak Foundation, Inc. Work will be carried out at two outstanding Wisconsin State Natural Areas in western Dane County: Pleasant Valley Conservancy and Black Earth Rettenmund Prairie.

These are full-time positions for 12 weeks in the summer (May 29 through August 17, 2012) and pay \$10.25 per hour. Those interested should be in college at least at the sophomore level and have a demonstrated interest in ecological restoration. Also desirable is a major in a field related to ecological restoration such as biology, botany, conservation, forestry, environmental studies, environmental engineering, wildlife, or soils. Applicants must be able to perform sustained physical work outdoors. A valid driver's license is required.

Interns will work closely with a team of experienced restoration ecologists. Two internships are available. These are full-time positions (8 hours a day, 5 days a week, for 12 weeks).

Pleasant Valley Conservancy and Black Earth Rettenmund Prairie are owned and/or managed by The Prairie Enthusiasts, a nonprofit organization that is active in the Midwest, with chapters in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois. Pleasant Valley Conservancy is a highly diverse natural area with prairies, savannas, wetlands, and woodlands. Rettenmund Prairie is a small but high-quality prairie remnant. Both are located in western Dane County near the Village of Black Earth. Occasional work at other Prairie Enthusiasts' sites may also be carried out.

As an intern in this supervised practical experience, you will spend the summer in the field where you will learn by doing a number of tasks in broad-scale landscape restoration and management projects, including work in prairie, savanna, woodland, and wetland habitats. The primary focus of activities is the control of invasive species, but some time will be spent on seed collecting, plant ecology and identification, and endangered species monitoring. The internship will give you the opportunity to become familiar with both native and alien plants. Some use of power tools and herbicides will be involved.

Academic credit may be available for participation in this program; each intern is responsible for making academic credit arrangements with her/his university.

Interns are responsible for their travel, housing, and other living expenses, and are encouraged to carpool between home and worksites. Sturdy work boots, gloves and clothing, as well as sun, rain and insect protection are required. All tools will be provided.

How to Apply: Application deadline to ensure consideration is Friday, February 24, 2012.

Apply by email to kmbrock@charter.net. Please include a cover letter describing your background and interests, plus a resume which contains details of relevant college course work and previous work and volunteer experience. Be as detailed as necessary to describe your background and interests.

For further information on the restoration activities at these two sites, refer to the Pleasant Valley Conservancy website (<http://PleasantValleyConservancy.org>). See also Tom's Blog at <http://pvcblog.blogspot.com/>