Duke Forest 2019 Summer Internship Job Description

About the Office of the Duke Forest:

The Duke Forest comprises over 7,000 acres of land in Durham, Orange, and Alamance counties and has been managed for research and teaching purposes since 1931. The mission of the Duke Forest is to facilitate research that addresses fundamental and applied questions across a variety of disciplines and to aid in the instruction of all students in their pursuit of knowledge, especially regarding the stewardship of our natural resources. In addition, the Forest offers education and outreach events to the public and provides recreational opportunities for the Duke and local community. More information is available at: www.dukeforest.duke.edu.

General Position Summary:

Duke Forest summer interns are exposed to all aspects of managing a multi-use forest. This summer, interns will have the opportunity to participate in the decadal update of the Duke Forest Inventory. Interns will assist with installing continuous forest inventory (CFI) plots and collecting field data. In addition to assisting with data collection for the forest inventory, summer interns will assist with the maintenance and operation of the Forest. Typical duties include:

- Assisting in forest management activities such as timber sales, invasive species control, and boundary line maintenance.
- Assisting in recreation management activities such as trail maintenance, blazing, and trimming.
- Assisting in operations such as road maintenance, vehicle maintenance, and research project set-up and tear down.
- Assisting with infrastructure maintenance and improvements, including painting forest gates, cleaning forest signs, and maintaining picnic shelters.
- Assisting with ongoing projects or annual events such as monitoring Natural Heritage and High Conservation Value areas and facilitating the on-going “Good Leashes Make Good Neighbors” campaign.
- Assisting with communications, outreach, and engagement including but not limited to supporting work on the Duke Forest Facebook page, and offering tours and volunteer events.
- Maintaining and improving infrastructure, including forest gates, signs, and picnic shelters.

This is a 13-week paid summer internship. Positions run from June to August; exact start and end dates are negotiable.

Qualifications:

- Working towards a degree in Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science, or a related field.
- Experience identifying common piedmont plant species, both native and non-native.
- Experience with forest mensuration ideal.
- Ability to use a GPS and navigate confidently in the field.
The successful applicant will be a self-starter and safety conscious, demonstrate a willingness to learn, and be physically fit enough to endure 8-hour days in the field. This is primarily a field based position so applicants must be comfortable working alone or in groups, in diverse forest types, and in various weather conditions. Some weekend work may be required.

To apply:

Please submit a resume and cover letter to: jenna.schreiber@duke.edu with the subject line: 2019 Duke Forest Summer Intern.