



## Natural Resources – Intern

**INTERNSHIP SUMMARY:** As a Cleveland Metroparks Natural Resources Intern, you'll have the opportunity to experience meaningful work in nature, define your career goals, develop new skills, and build relationships across the Park District. You will learn proper land management, monitoring, and restoration practices while working closely with Natural Resources Division staff.

### **Responsibilities and Experience may include:**

- 1. Natural Resource Management:** Assist with projects in a variety of habitats. Activities may include removing invasive plants, maintaining trails, planting and maintaining trees, surveying streams, stocking/surveying fish, maintaining wildlife cameras, surveying wildlife, and growing native plants.
- 2. Resource Stewardship:** Develop an awareness of the principles of conservation, ecology, environmental management, and land stewardship and their practical use.
- 3. Equipment Maintenance:** Learn proper uses and techniques, cleaning, maintenance, and storage of job-related equipment.
- 4. Resource Evaluation & Inventory:** Learn to 1) document existing resources such as plant and wildlife populations; 2) evaluate habitat types and conditions; 3) assist with data collection including the use of geographic information systems (GIS).
- 5. Continuing Education:** Participate in a variety of trainings to gain a better understanding of natural resource management and issues.

### **INTERN REQUIREMENTS:**

Minimum Requirements: A strong interest in the outdoors, which may include any of the following; plants, water, wildlife, and natural habitats. Physical/mental stamina to work 4- to 8-hour days: days may be spent entirely outdoors in widely varying weather conditions or indoors working on a computer or in a lab.

1. Ability to lift up to 50 pounds.
2. Ability to hike on varied terrain for up to 7-8 hours per day.
3. Ability to or interest to learn to operate hand tools and power equipment and apply herbicides safely, with appropriate training and protective gear provided.
4. Ability to work long hours outdoors and tolerate the climate and conditions of natural areas (poor weather, biting insects, poison ivy, rough terrain, etc.).

5. Communicate and complete any school-related tasks required to qualify experience as an internship.

**Preferred Commitment:** Ability to be punctual and reliable, listen to and follow complex instructions, and strong desire to learn and apply newly acquired skills toward maintaining the region's natural resources.

**Minimum Education:** High school junior or senior (17 or over) or enrolled student of an accredited college or university with one semester of completed coursework in environmental science, forestry, wildlife, biology, entomology, fisheries, horticulture, or a related field.