



SEASONAL STEWARDSHIP INTERNSHIP (PART-TIME)

Job Posting and Description February 2023

The mission of the Walloon Lake Association and Conservancy (WLAC) is to conserve, care for and enhance the connection of people to Walloon Lake and its watershed, now and forever. The WLAC is an oddity in the conservation community in that it is a hybrid of a lake association and land trust. We view our uniqueness as a strength. We are a non-profit (501C3), membership-based organization. We have a board of 14 Trustees, and teammates that include 6 full-time staff with the addition of 1-3 interns every summer. Through 9 committees, we tackle lake and land issues; from boater safety, government relations, aquatic invasive species control to land conservation, preserve stewardship and public education. The right person will see this extraordinary combination as a unique opportunity to protect the lake and land in one of the most beloved scenic areas in the country.

The Walloon Lake Association and Conservancy uses education, stewardship, and acquisition to protect and conserve lands and waters in the Walloon Lake watershed. The WLAC holds 53 preserves and 20 conservation easements which must be monitored and maintained each summer season. The WLAC requires the assistance of seasonal staff to achieve these goals.

The Seasonal Stewardship Intern/s will work collaboratively with the WLAC staff, reporting directly to the Director of Conservation Programs. Responsibilities will include outdoor stewardship work, and enhancement projects on preserves, helping monitor all conservation easement properties, and ongoing trail and preserve maintenance. The Stewardship Intern/s will also assist with coordination, technical support, field assessment and monitoring on a variety of projects, in collaboration with the Watershed Stewardship Coordinator. Other responsibilities will include helping lead volunteers meet program goals and helping develop external communications including presentations, social media posts, and collaborating on print and web-based content.

The Stewardship Intern/s should be familiar with Michigan natural community types, native plant, and animal species. You should have living arrangements near Petoskey, Michigan, be over 18 years of age, and have reliable transportation. This position will require the use of personal vehicles (with mileage reimbursement). The WLAC anticipates providing this opportunity to students or those interested in an entry-level position in the natural resource management field. Current students looking for internship opportunities should especially apply. This position is a part time seasonal position (~30 hours per week) from mid-May through September 2023 (dates negotiable).

Position: Seasonal Stewardship Intern

Duration: 14-16 weeks/mid-May through September 2023

Rate of pay: \$13.00 per hour/20-30+ hours per week (plus mileage accrued during WLAC work and activities).

Hours: Flexible work schedule to accommodate additional employment

Location: Walloon Lake Association and Conservancy office in Walloon Lake, MI, and the watershed service area

Responsibilities: Duties will focus primarily on assisting stewardship and land protection efforts including trail development, invasive species management, assisting volunteer workforce and general tasks associated with the WLAC preserves and land protection projects.

Specific activities may include:

- Assist with the implementation of management plans for WLAC preserves
- Assist in removal of invasive species on WLAC preserves including cutting and hauling of brush
- Coordinate and oversee volunteers for stewardship activities and workdays
- Assist in trail construction and maintenance
- Annual monitoring of conservation easement protected properties
- Maintain land management records/databases for conservation easements and WLAC owned properties
- Develop written material for newsletters, presentations, and web/social media outlets
- Other tasks as assigned by Director of Conservation Programs or Executive Director

Desirable skills and abilities:

- An interest in, and knowledge of, natural resources and conservation
- Willingness to do strenuous physical work, including ability to lift 50lbs
- Ability to operate machinery, hand tools, etc.
- Basic knowledge and ID skills for Michigan flora, fauna, and invasive species
- Familiarity with Michigan ecosystems
- Good organizational, observational, map reading, written, verbal, and interpersonal skills
- Familiarity with GPS devices and GIS software is desirable
- Strong attention to detail

Requirements:

- Driver's license and reliable transportation
- At least 18 years old
- Housing in the Petoskey/Boyne City area
- Ability to use personal car for work-related transportation (reimbursement provided)

To Apply: Send a resume and cover letter to Connor Dennis, Director of Conservation Programs, at connor@walloon.org, or to P.O. Box 579, Walloon Lake MI 49796. Applications should be submitted by **March 20, 2023**.