

***The Alameda County Resource Conservation District is seeking applicants
for
Hands-on-Conservation Program Internship***

Hands-on-Conservation (HOC) is an environmental stewardship field program offered through the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) for middle and high school age students from Alameda County schools and youth groups. Program participants learn about conservation and stewardship through active, hands-on participation in land restoration projects such as native species plantings, invasive plant removal, creek clean ups and other outdoor activities. Field work is integrated with informal instruction in topics such as natural resources protection and management, non-point source pollution prevention, and relevant education/career paths. An important goal of the HOC program is to give young people the opportunity to develop teamwork and leadership skills, and to share the responsibility for the success of the stewardship projects that they undertake.

Intern Responsibilities:

The Intern will assist the HOC Program Manager with effectively implementing the HOC program. The Intern's tasks will include: project site reconnaissance, preparation and maintenance, organization of project/lesson materials, scheduling field days, managing site logistical issues, conducting engaging field activities with young people, and evaluating program outcomes. The intern will work in close coordination with youth group leaders and teachers in planning and conducting field sessions. There will be fairly intense physical labor involved in conducting the stewardship projects such as creek cleanups, invasive plant removal and native species plantings. The Intern will need to be experienced and comfortable leading and working in tandem with primarily teen-aged youth.

Worksite and Timeframe:

The Intern will work primarily from home, but will spend approximately 10% of their time at the ACRCD office in Livermore or other meeting sites, working with the HOC Program Manager. The stewardship projects will take place in west Alameda County. Hours worked will vary, but average 8-10 hours per week (maximum of 40 hours per month) for six months. Approximately half of this time will be spent in the field. The Intern has some flexibility in scheduling work days to suit his/her schedule, but one Saturday morning per month is required.

Candidate Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree (or pursuing) in environmental studies or related field with environmental science/environmental education/natural resources/biology coursework;
- Recent experience teaching middle and high school aged youth in an outdoor setting;
- Reliable car, a valid California Drivers License, proof of auto insurance;
- Reliable home computer and internet access, cell phone;
- Physically fit, able to lift 50 lbs., and capable of spending several consecutive hours outdoors leading activities in fairly rough terrain, such as along stream banks. Recent experience doing physical work outdoors is required;
- Live in or very close to west Alameda County for close proximity to project sites.

Desirable Skills and Qualities:

- Environmental education curriculum/lesson plan development experience;
- Strong commitment to working with youth, and enthusiasm for hands-on learning and teaching; able to inspire and engage teens;

- Flexible and adaptable;
- Reliable, well organized;
- Excellent communication skills; comfortable speaking in front of a group;
- Self-motivated, shows initiative and demonstrated leadership qualities;
- Ability to work as part of a team; readily and consistently coordinates with others;
- Friendly, outgoing, good sense of humor;

Internship Position Information:

- Stipend: \$4000 stipend for a 6 month time period (for minimum of 40 hrs/month, for the 6 months following the start date, 8-10 hours a week); one Saturday morning per month will be required as part of the hours;
- Temporary Resource Conservationist Level 1 position with ACRCO, no benefits;
- Reimbursement for mileage to and from project sites is included in the stipend;
- Paid bi-weekly;
- Position is suitable for a paid internship for college credit if enrolled in appropriate major, i.e., Environmental Studies/Science at CSUEB or other East Bay college;
- Position posted 7/1/08, open until filled;
- References will be requested if applicant is selected for an interview;
- There may be an option to repeat the internship beginning in March 2009 if the Intern's work merits this;

How to Apply:

Please send a current resume, a short statement of interest, and dates of availability to:

Amy Evans, Resource Conservationist

Alameda County Resource Conservation District

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