

# **Conservation Internship**

## **Internship Summary**

Do you want an internship that will immerse you into the everyday workings of a successful, land conservation non-profit? This 12-month experience with the Allegheny Land Trust (ALT) will teach you about land conservation, volunteers, land management, nonprofits and much more. With months to get to know our staff, our beautiful conservation areas and your responsibilities, you will have significant hands-on experiences and become a vital member of the ALT team.

The Conservation Intern will assist with critical stewardship, fieldwork, land management, volunteer recruitment and restoration of ALT's conservation lands. The intern may work on a variety projects all over Allegheny County and include any or all of ALT future acquisitions, fee lands and conservation easements. The job will work with a variety of partners, such as watershed associations, local government, schools and other nonprofit organizations to accomplish tasks for the betterment of the Stewardship Department and ALT.

# **Primary Duties and Responsibilities**

- Assist with management plan implementation, invasive species control, native habitat development, trail evaluation and maintenance and more.
- Perform general maintenance of trails, signs, parking areas and other visitor facilities on ALT conservation lands.
- Communicate with visitors to promote understanding of the lands unique attributes and threatened resources.
- Coordinate, lead, and wrap-up volunteer workdays, outreach and education events.
- Make presentations and represent ALT at community events and meetings. Attend a variety of public
  events working with community members, local authorities, volunteers in support of healthy
  conservation areas.
- Maintain accurate records in the ALT stewardship office of activities and events on conservation lands including GIS/GPS data, property issues, and maintenance needs.
- Assist ALT staff as needed



#### **Requirements and Basic Qualifications**

- Must be available for entire 12-month period
- Preferred candidate will be pursuing a degree in natural sciences, landscape architecture or a related field
- Excellent public speaking, communication and organizational skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to lift and carry up to 30 pounds; be able to use hand tools and some mechanical equipment
- Familiarity with native flora/fauna as well as invasive species
- Knowledge of trail maintenance and ecological land management principles
- Availability to work some evenings and weekends
- A valid driver's license and transportation (gas expenses are reimbursed at the federal per diem rate)

## **ALT Background**

Our mission is to serve as the lead land trust conserving and stewarding lands that support the scenic, recreational and environmental well-being of communities in Allegheny County and its environs. We help local people save local land for future generations. We do this to preserve quality drinking water, protect critical ecosystems and wildlife habitat and to provide passive recreational opportunities to enhance healthy lifestyles. ALT was established in 1993 and has protected over 2,000 acres in Allegheny and Washington counties. We have eight full-time and 12 part-time staff and 16 Board members.

**Title:** Conservation Intern

ALT Headquarters: 416 Thorn St., Sewickley, PA 15143

**Hours:** This internship is 12 months in length with a blend of part time, credit earnings and a full time, paid position.

September to December – 10-15 hours per week for credit and/or non-paid experience

January to May – 10-15 hours per week for credit and/or non-paid experience

June to August - 37.5 hours per week paid experience

**Supervisor:** Emilie Rzotkiewicz, Vice President of Land Resources

**To Apply:** Submit cover letter, resume and three references to Emilie Rzotkiewicz, VP of Land Resources at <a href="mailto:erzotkiewicz@alleghenylandtrust.org">erzotkiewicz@alleghenylandtrust.org</a> with "Conservation Internship" in the subject line.

ALT is an equal opportunity employer and follows affirmative action policy.

