

SIUC – Center of Ecology Internship Opportunity

Job Location – Grayslake IL – Lake County (**One Position**)

Lake County Forest Preserve District - Illinois Department of Natural Resources SIUC Center of Ecology, the Lake County Forest Preserve District, and the Natural Areas Association are offering a summer internship in northeastern Illinois. Learn conservation techniques from some of the best experts and organizations in the field while working in a natural setting. This internship will provide a one year membership to the Natural Areas Association. The mission of the Natural Areas Association is to advance the preservation of natural diversity. The Association works to inform, unite, and support persons engaged in identifying, protecting, managing, and studying natural areas and biological diversity across landscapes and ecosystems. A specific goal of the association is to provide information and expertise to those seeking a career in natural areas management.

Preferred candidates are students with a long-term interest in natural area conservation.

Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD): The mission of the LCFPD is to preserve a dynamic and unique system of natural and cultural resources and to develop innovative education, recreation and cultural opportunities of regional value, while exercising environmental and fiscal responsibility. Lake County is home to more endangered and threatened species than any other county in Illinois. The LCFPD is working to preserve and restore the habitats that native wildlife and plants need to survive and thrive.

Job Description: Work with LCFPD Natural Resource Managers & Ecologists in northeastern Illinois. Possible work duties may include the following:

Land Stewardship Activities: Conducting management on natural areas in Lake County, such as mapping and controlling exotic and invasive native plants, posting boundary signs, collecting prairie seed and redistribute in restoration areas, assisting with amphibian, bird, and small mammal surveys as part of a county wide wildlife monitoring program, and assisting with vegetation monitoring and hydrologic monitoring in dune and swale communities along Lake Michigan. Office work will vary, and may include assisting with updating management plans, site surveillance forms, assisting with organizing landowner meetings, and conservation partnership meetings, researching information about threatened and endangered plant populations and management, and typing plant and animal lists for INAI sites.

Job will include some hiking in steep terrain, wading in aquatic habitats, spraying herbicides and working in hot humid conditions. Basic computer skills, and GPS knowledge helpful. Ability to operate 4 wheel drive vehicles, ATV's, small utility tractors and boats useful. Students will be required to test for a general use herbicide license.

Housing assistance available.

For more information about this position, contact:

Debbie Maurer: Assistant Natural Resource Manager & Ecologist - dmaurer@LCFPD.org
847.968.3285