

2021 Horticulture Internship

Waterfront Botanical Gardens
P.O. Box 5056
Louisville, KY 40206

- Location:** Waterfront Botanical Gardens (1435 Frankfort Ave. Louisville, KY)
- Duration:** 10- to 20-week term completed within March to November time frame
- Stipend:** \$14.00/hr (32 to 40-hours/week)

This seasonal internship at Waterfront Botanical Gardens (WBG) encompasses horticultural and curatorial tasks associated with the developing 23-acre botanical garden site, currently in Phase I construction. Presently, horticultural beds exist in the Helen Harrigan Garden, Mary Duthie Garden, Beargrass Creek Pathway, Entry Garden/Hillside, Founders' Garden (Heigold Façade) and Evergreen Tapestry.

Horticultural tasks include plant care, installation and general maintenance of seasonal herbaceous flower and vegetable beds and crop production and scheduling in a historic greenhouse. The historic facade of the Heigold House is surrounded by plantings in a large traffic island bed on Frankfort Ave. New planting beds will be installed at the main botanical garden site as well. Occasional curatorial tasks center around documentation, GPS mapping and logging of plant materials at the two garden locations. Plant accession information will be managed with the IrisBG computerized module.

At the main WBG site, as construction wraps up, more and more beds will need planting, maintenance and curatorial recording. Already the entrance road is planted with woody and herbaceous plants which need curatorial documentation and general care. As the summer progresses, completion of the construction areas around the Education Center and Botanical Classrooms complex allows for soil prep and planting of trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennials in anticipation of the fall special events.

The ideal intern candidate will have plant growing-experience, taken at least two horticulture classes at a secondary or tertiary level institution, be familiar with basic hand gardening tools (shovel, rake, hand pruners, etc.), have a good plant identification knowledge base, and have computer literacy (either Windows or Mac).

The stipend is paid biweekly by direct deposit. No benefits and housing is not provided.

The Horticulture Intern receives hands-on training in all phases of garden development and care of the existing living collections, from trees and shrubs and herbaceous perennials to seasonal annual/vegetable crops. Specific emphasis is placed on refining practical horticultural skills. Supervisory skills may be developed by directing the activities of volunteers. Other activities include developing integrated pest management (IPM) skills, arboriculture techniques, and the

potential operation and maintenance of simple garden machinery. Additional opportunity exists to assist in teaching of youth regarding plant life, botany and ecology, etc.

Duties & Responsibilities

Identify weeds and implement control methods, including applying basic integrated pest management strategies in an edible garden and ornamental landscapes.

Promote pollinator health and diversity in the gardens.

Assist in scheduling of tasks and maintenance of trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials and seasonal annuals both in containers and in-ground.

Take part in watering plants and containers on daily schedule.

Learn practical garden digging concepts, proper planting techniques and propagation basics.

Gain familiarity with or operational experience with small garden maintenance machinery.

Potential for occasional event, youth camp or adult class preparation and tear-down.

Education and Experience

An academic or practical background in horticulture is preferred; plant sciences, botany or closely related field are also considered.

Be able and willing to communicate professionally and cooperatively with WBG staff, board members, volunteers and educational programming participants.

Be able and willing to work independently and as part of a small team.

Be able and willing to work in all weather conditions, including intense sun rays and high ambient humidity outdoors as well as in greenhouse space.

Be able and willing to lift at least 25 lbs., occasionally up to 50 lbs.

A valid driver's license is required.

To Apply: Send a cover letter mentioning which location of the internship you are wishing consideration (e.g. Frankfort Avenue or The Avish), a current resume and list of at least 3 professional references to info@waterfrontgardens.org and write "Horticulture Internship" in the subject line. Applications being accepted through Monday, March 1, 2021.