



Earth Advocate *Youth Development & Land Management Intern*

Organization Information: Eagle Eye Institute, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization based in Peru, MA, empowers urban young people from low-income communities to play a positive role caring for the environment. Eagle Eye engages youth with nature through hands-on exploratory learning, stewardship, and career-bridging programs. This is achieved through building the commitment and capacity of youth development and conservation organizations to effectively engage urban people as stewards and leaders for the environment.

Position Summary: As an Earth Advocate, you will assist with organizing and facilitating one-day Learn About Forests™ and overnight Learn More About Forests™ programs for youth groups. Our program models, in which small groups of 12-15 youth are immersed in the outdoors, are founded in experiential education and incorporate science-based activities led by natural resource professionals. You will assist the Program Manager with planning and leading games and activities, as well as day-of program logistics, such as setting up camp and preparing meals.

As you assist with our summer youth programs, you will live and learn on the land at our forest site, which is equipped with tent platforms, outdoor vegan kitchen, organic vegetable gardens, solar panels and trail network. You will gain hands-on experience in land management, including but not limited to: tree, shrub, and flower planting; mowing and weed-whacking; trail building and repair; forest management and firewood production; brush cleanup; organic vegetable gardening; and traditional and alternative building construction. This is an opportunity to connect with yourself, others, and the land in an immersive outdoor-living experience.

We are a small organization that prioritizes individual growth, development, and empowerment; we encourage you to tailor your internship experience to your interests!

Location: The internship takes place at MountainStar Forest, a 200+ acre forest site in Peru, MA, just 30 miles west of Northampton. The mission of the site is to protect the spirit of the forest and conserve and enhance its beauty and health by engaging people of all ages and cultural backgrounds in its stewardship, so that future generations of all life can flourish.

Qualifications:

- Current college students or recent graduates with a high degree of personal motivation and leadership capability, who are passionate about the environment and social justice.
- Environmental Studies & Sustainability, Social Change, and Youth/Education majors are suggested, though we will consider anyone who has knowledge of and interest in the environment. Experience with youth is preferred. Prior landscaping skills also helpful.

- We seek individuals who are open-minded, good communicators, willing to learn, have a sense of humor, and are cooperative and community-minded.

Additional Qualifications:

- Transportation to and from site
- Good physical condition
- Flexibility with days and hours

Timeline & Compensation: The internship will run for six weeks with a flexible start date. The schedule will be 30-40 hours per week, depending on projects and programs. As a residential internship, room (camping) and board (vegan meals) are provided, as well as a \$2,000 stipend.

How to Apply: Via email, submit a resume, two character references, and a letter stating the following: why you are interested; why you are the best person for this internship; what skills you have to contribute; and what you would like to learn from your experience. How do you see this internship helping you in your personal and professional development?

Contact:

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We work with diverse populations and we seek diverse applicants!