



Residential Summer Internship 2018

Organization: Eagle Eye Institute, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Peru, MA, empowers urban people from underserved communities, especially youth of color, to play an active role in caring for our environment. Eagle Eye partners with youth organizations, schools, universities, and others to offer programs that raise environmental awareness, develop responsibility, and cultivate leadership through stewardship of our natural resources.

Location: The Residential Summer Internship takes place at MountainStar Forest, our 200+ acre forest site in the Berkshires, 35 miles west of Amherst. 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.

Position Summary: As a Residential Summer Intern, you will live and learn for six weeks at our forest site, which is equipped with tent platforms, solar panels, trail network, fire circle, outdoor kitchen, and organic vegetable gardens. You will gain hands-on experience in land management, including, but not limited to, tree, shrub, and flower planting, mowing and weed-whacking, trail clearing and building, forest management and firewood production, organic gardening, and carpentry. You will camp outdoors, living in a low-impact way that utilizes few natural resources. The Interns and Internship Coordinator will prepare daily meals using fresh produce in the outdoor kitchen. You will have the opportunity to mentor young people (high-school age) in week-long internship-in-training experiences. You may also assist with our youth programs, which incorporate games, service-learning, and science-based activities led by natural resource professionals. You will assist with other summer events, such as the annual Board Retreat and Alumni Gathering. Depending on your interests and goals, you will have the opportunity to design and implement an independent project. The internship is an opportunity to connect with yourself, others, and nature in a beautiful and protected outdoor setting.

Past Interns Have Said: *"I am so much more comfortable and confident being in the wild! I now know I can survive and work in the woods and be strong there. It's definitely an energy and an experience I'm going to keep seeking out in my life from now on whether I'm in the city or the suburbs (or rural woods)."*

"It's not all fun and games! Nothing is and that's what makes it a learning experience. But definitely a good place for recent grads trying to figure out their life...Living in the woods and focusing on mindfulness clears the head and heart. If you put the energy in, you will benefit greatly!"

Supervision: The two Residential Summer Interns will receive guidance and mentorship from the Internship Coordinator, and supervision from the Program Manager and Site Manager. The interns will also have the benefit of working directly with the co-founders of Eagle Eye Institute.

Timeline & Daily Schedule: The internship will run for six weeks with a start date in June or July, TBD by Eagle Eye. Work days will be Monday thru Friday with weekends off, except for programs and events. (We will let you know well in advance when these are scheduled.) The hours will be 30-40 per week, depending on projects and programs.

A sample daily schedule is below:

7:00-7:15 AM Morning meditation

7:15-8:00 AM Breakfast and cleanup

8:00 AM-12:00 PM Land management projects with Site Manager

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch, cleanup, and break

1:00-4:00 PM Garden and trail projects, independent projects

4:00-6:00 PM Free time, journaling, getting wet in the waterfall

6:00 PM Dinner and cleanup

Compensation: Room (camping) and vegan meals are included Monday thru Friday. A stipend of \$2,000 will be paid upon completion of the internship. **You may request the stipend in two payments.*

Qualifications:

Individuals who are most successful in this internship have the following qualities:

- Open-minded, curious, and willing to challenge their assumptions.
- Respectful, cooperative, and considerate of others.
- Energetic, highly motivated, and self-advocating.
- Able and willing to communicate, especially in new and challenging situations.
- Open to sharing personal stories.
- Able to work well independently or in a small team.
- Food prep and cooking experience, general cleanliness required.
- Note that we keep a vegan kitchen and all food brought into or prepared on site must be vegan.

Additional Qualifications:

- Current college student or recent graduate.
- Transportation to and from site.
- Excellent physical condition.
- Flexibility with days and hours.
- Demonstrated passion for social justice and the environment.
- Experience with youth development and mentorship.
- Prior landscaping or trail experience a plus.

How to Apply: Submit a current resume, a letter stating your interest and qualifications, and the names and contact information of two character references. Include why you are interested in 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/or professional development? Please include any outdoor experience and experience with youth that reflects your comfort with and commitment to both.

Eagle Eye believes in the right of all people to a healthy environment and a positive relationship with nature, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

We encourage individuals from communities of color to apply.

For questions and to apply, contact:

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