

N.C. Cooperative Extension
Office of the Director of County Operations
NC State University
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Raleigh, NC 27695-7602



Wilson County

County/Worksite Location: Wilson County Cooperative Extension

Proposal/Program Area: Horticulture

Project Title: Horticulture Intern

Immediate/ Site Supervisor: Cyndi Lauderdale

Other mentors/supervisors:
1 Norman Harrell

Project summary and intended outcomes:

The Wilson Botanical Gardens is a 12 acre public garden designed to provide education, entertainment and beautification in a smalltown setting. The garden is managed as a 501 c 3 non-profit on county land and maintained almost entirely by volunteers. The Horticulture Intern will conduct youth education programs, educational presentations for adults and perform horticulture work in the Gardens.

Job Duties

Education – 80%

The intern will plan, manage, conduct and evaluate summer gardening educational programs for youth ages 10-16. This program will be offered to youth throughout the county and conducted at the Wilson Botanical Gardens. Topics of the programs may include: plant growth and development, soils and water, ecology, insects, landscape horticulture, fruits and vegetables, life skills and career exploration.

Public Speaking-10%

The intern will plan, manage, conduct (or arrange for others to conduct) and organize educational programs for adults as part of a monthly education series.



Horticultural Labor – 10%

The intern will perform horticultural work in a public garden. This includes, but is not limited to, garden renovation, plant removal and installation, plant cataloging and labeling, pruning, composting and other general garden duties.

What qualifications and previous coursework does the student need in order to be prepared for this internship, if any?

Education and/or science coursework is required. Horticulture coursework is preferred. Junior or Senior in Horticulture will be given top priority. Applicants must have a working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite. Applicants must be flexible, organized, and able to work independently. Applicants must be able to work outdoors in ambient weather conditions and be able to lift up to 25 lbs.

What benefits/skills will the student gain through this internship?

- Teaching skills
- Public speaking skills
- Program/curricula development, implementation and evaluation skills
- Horticulture best management techniques
- Life skills