

N.C. Cooperative Extension
NC State University
2501 Founders Drive, Suite 120
Campus Box 7602; Patterson Hall
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Wilson County Extension Intern

Location: Wilson County

Program Area: Horticulture

Project Title: Horticulture Intern

Immediate/Site Supervisor: Cyndi Lauderdale

Other mentors/supervisors: Normal Harrell

Position Description/Responsibilities:

The Wilson Botanical Gardens is a 12-acre public demonstration garden designed to provide education, entertainment, and beautification in a small town setting. The garden is managed as a 501c3 non-profit on county land and maintained almost entirely by Extension Master Gardener volunteers. The Horticulture Intern will conduct youth education programs, educational presentations for adults and perform horticulture work in the Gardens.

Job Duties

Education – 70% 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-15% 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 – 15% 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.

Preferred qualifications/previous coursework:

- Education and/or science coursework is required; Horticulture coursework is preferred
- Must pass a drug and criminal background check
- Must have a working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite
- Must be flexible, organized, and able to work independently
- Must be able to work outdoors in ambient weather conditions and be able to lift up to 25 lbs

Benefits/skills student will gain through this internship:

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

Additional Information:

We love hosting interns and while most of their time will be in horticulture, Wilson Extension strives to introduce our intern to all programs areas.

