

Columbia Land Conservancy Conservation Programs Intern

Position Status: 35 hours per week with flexibility

Term: 12 weeks, Mid-May – August (flexible)

Reports to: Stewardship & GIS Manager

Compensation: \$16/hour (no benefits, housing not provided)

About the Columbia Land Conservancy: The Columbia Land Conservancy works with our community to conserve the farmland, forests, wildlife habitat, and rural character of Columbia County, strengthening connections between people and the land. For over 35 years, CLC has collaborated with individuals and partners to create opportunities for people to engage with nature, care for lands and waters, and support local agriculture. Columbia County is located on the ancestral homelands of the Mohican people, who are the Indigenous peoples of this land.

The Columbia Land Conservancy is open to people of all ideas and backgrounds. We value diverse viewpoints and experiences. We strive to build a healthy workplace, provide equitable access to and meaningful connections with the land, and strengthen our community. Our values that guide decision-making include incorporating many voices and perspectives, learning from the past while preparing for the future, and that everyone deserves access to land.

Position Summary

This position will primarily assist staff with easement stewardship and public conservation area stewardship efforts. The intern will be provided with training on various aspects of land trust work and given opportunities to learn many new skills.

Learning Goals:

- Develop or enhance skills related to GIS/GPS technology, map reading, and conservation easement interpretation
- Develop or enhance skills related to flora and fauna identification, trail building and maintenance, and various community science applications
- Understanding of the basic functions of a nonprofit land trust

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist the Stewardship team with annual monitoring of easement-protected lands
- Assist the Stewardship team with updating digital records, georeferencing scanned maps, and scanning documents
- Assist the Public Conservation Area team with managing sites. Work may include:
 - Assessing and inventorying trails for ADA compliance
 - Inspecting property boundary lines
 - Assessing current conditions
 - Removing invasive species
- Assist other CLC program staff as needed

Qualifications:

The qualification required to excel in this position can come from a range of experiences. Below we describe what we believe to be important qualifications for a candidate while remaining open to diverse experiences that lead to useful skill sets. Position descriptions are often presented in a way that leaves qualified candidates feeling unwelcome, intimidated, uncomfortable, and/or unqualified to apply. Recognizing that, we strongly encourage anyone who feels passionate about this work and believes they have what it takes to thrive in this role to apply.

- An interest in learning more about a career in natural resource management, land trust work, or related fields.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both written and orally.
- Ability to work outdoors under a variety of conditions
- Motivated, self-starter, detail-oriented, and possess good organizational skills
- Knowledge of GPS/GIS technology a plus, but will be taught
- A valid driver's license and insurable driving record (documentation to be provided upon request)
- Proof of complete COVID vaccination is required before the start of employment