

How We Prepare Students for the Future

Mt. Cuba Center is committed to providing a valuable internship program. Upon completion of this program, students are proficient in native plant identification and landscape use, possess solid skills in caring for naturalistic gardens, follow environmental gardening practices, and know how to conserve our natural habitats. With these objectives in mind, interns participate in plant identification classes and complete an independent intern project that demonstrates an understanding of local flora and their conservation. At the end of the program, interns present their projects to Mt. Cuba Center staff. Our goal is to motivate students to take conservation action and make the world a better place.

While enrolled in our program, interns are provided with the following:

- Onsite housing which includes parking, use of a communal kitchen and laundry facility.
- Wireless internet access (laptops provided for Mt. Cuba center work and projects during internship).
- Use of designated intern area and library during work hours for homework and research.

Our Founding Intention

Mt. Cuba Center inspires students to have an appreciation for the beauty and value of native plants and a desire to protect the environments that sustain them. The garden is the vision of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lammot du Pont Copeland who established their estate to preserve rural pastures and fields, protect forests and develop a series of naturalistic woodland wildflower gardens. Our founding intention is the wish of Mrs. Lammot du Pont Copeland, "I want this to be a place where people will learn to appreciate our native plants and to see how these plants can enrich their lives so that they, in turn, will become conservators of our natural habitats."

Where Are We Located?

Mt. Cuba Center is a botanical garden located in the historically and horticulturally rich countryside of the northern Delaware Piedmont. We are a convenient drive from Philadelphia (45 minutes), Baltimore (90 minutes), Washington D.C. (2 1/2 hours), and New York City (3 hours). Our central location provides interns the opportunity to explore and discover other botanical gardens in the area.



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Summer Internship Program 2015

Application deadline March 1, 2015





Summer Internships at Mt. Cuba Center

Come study at Mt. Cuba Center, a premier botanic garden, where we embrace ecological gardening and celebrate native plants. Gain hands-on experience in your specific internship area while working one-onone with our professional staff. Participate in group projects. educational programming, plant identification classes and trips to other area horticultural organizations. Each intern explores a special project topic. Mt. Cuba Center offers paid summer internships (\$11 per hour) running 12 weeks from May to August. Interns work 40 hours each week. On-site housing provided. Please note we are unable to accept foreign student applications at this time. For more information visit:

http://www.mtcubacenter.org/employment/internships/

Select one of the following seven internships:

1. Plant Records Intern

Attain valuable experience with BG-BASE™ and BG-MAP, the computerized plant record-keeping and mapping systems used at Mt. Cuba Center. Become proficient in botanical nomenclature verification, a crucial skill set required by all professional gardens and arboreta. Learn accurate plant record keeping practices and curatorial techniques such as inventorying, labeling and mapping.

2. Greenhouse/Research Intern

Acquire expertise in greenhouse production and become knowledgeable about our Plant Evaluation and Introductions Program. Learn propagation, maintenance and production techniques for woody and herbaceous plants collected from the Eastern United States and grown for use in our garden and research programs. Assist in the Trial Garden, assessing the use of native plants for the garden and their ecological value and collecting data for future evaluations, publications, or possible introductions.

3. Woodlands and Ponds Gardens Intern

Enjoy a rotation through the Woods Path, Ponds and Dogwood Path areas. Receive training in the cultivation and maintenance of native shade plantings, their use in woodland layering, and naturalistic design concepts. Understand sustainable management strategies used in mature naturalistic gardens. Study native plants in the Sphagnum Bog, Trillium Garden, Moss Bank, Woodland and Pond Edge. Intern is also taught weed identification and pest/disease management.

4. Meadow Intern

Support the creation of sunny meadow and woodland edge garden displays. Train in the planting and maintenance of native forbs and grasses. Learn about the native wildflowers and grasses used in our meadow and the wildlife that depends on them. Explore naturalistic design and plant arrangement as well as the sustainable practices of ecological horticulture.



5. Formal Gardens Intern

Learn how to maintain native plants in formal designs. The Formal Gardens surround the Main House at Mt. Cuba Center and showcase native flora and other historical non-native plantings in a traditional setting.

6. Natural Lands Intern

Expand your knowledge and experience with natural land stewardship and maintenance techniques. Assist with exotic plant suppression, habitat restoration projects, and local flora and fauna surveys. Work side-by-side with natural resource professionals, scientists and graduate students conducting research at Mt. Cuba Center.

7. Arboriculture Intern

Learn first-hand how Mt. Cuba Center's arborists manage our extensive collection of trees from planting to removal. Work may include tree pruning, removals, and risk assessment, as well as plant health care, mapping and record keeping. Intern trained as a ground worker and instructed in use of arboricultural equipment including ropes, knots, pole saws and pruners.

How to Apply

In PDF format, please send a resume, three references with their contact information, and a cover letter outlining your **internship choice**, your experience and your career goals to **internships@mtcubacenter.org**.

Phone interviews will commence early in 2015 as applications are received and will continue until positions are filled.

Application deadline March 1, 2015 but please apply early.

For more information visit <u>mtcubacenter.org</u> or email <u>internships@mtcubacenter.org</u>
Or call 302-239-8812