



Three Ponds Habitat Restoration Interns--2010

Summer semester interns: May 3-August 31.

Fall semester interns: September 1-October 31.

Position summary:

The Three Ponds Habitat Restoration Intern identifies and controls non-native, invasive weeds, enhances native plantings, coordinates work parties, recruits volunteers, records data, writes reports, recognizes and rewards contributions of volunteers, and other tasks. **This is a volunteer (unpaid) position.**

Organization Background:

WMEAC (West Michigan Environmental Action Council) is a nonprofit membership organization founded in 1968 that has been active in issues ranging from banning DDT, lake, water, and dunes preservation, to our modern-day challenge of global climate change. WMEAC has two areas of focus: **Protecting Water, Building Sustainable Communities.** Our mission is to lead environmental protection in West Michigan by inspiring action.

Overview:

The Three Ponds Habitat Restoration site manages stormwater as a public demonstration, and supplies native plants to other projects. Volunteers donate their time to help accomplish these goals. Volunteers range from students, service groups, businesses, individuals, Wild Ones members, to Michigan State University Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists. WMEAC uses our native plant nurseries to propagate Michigan's native species in sustainable ways. We provide plants to rain gardens, schools, native plantings, habitat restorations, and similar projects.

Responsibilities:

- Keep regularly scheduled days and hours.
- Remove/control invasive, non-native weeds on the site.
- Enhance native plantings.
- Keep a dated record of plant & animal species observed.
- Communicate regularly with WMEAC staff.
- Recruit, engage and assist volunteers in habitat restoration activities.
- Write brief end of term accomplishments report.
- Provide WMEAC with database of volunteer contacts and hours donated.
- Write thank you letters to volunteers.
- Represent WMEAC at events and activities.
- Other tasks as requested.





Qualifications: The successful candidate is upbeat and positive, self-directed and motivated. The person should have knowledge of native plants and habitat management or willingness to learn. The intern should enjoy being outdoors with nature and working with volunteers. The intern will take initiative to complete needed projects, and complete tasks in a timely manner.

- Good internet & computer skills
- Excellent writing and speaking skills
- Ability to work at location; some weekend hours required
- Valid driver's license & motor vehicle to transport plants and tools to the work site
- Good organizational skills, self-starter
- Keen interest and/or background in botany, ecology & habitat restoration
- Commitment to protect the environment

Hours:

4-12 per week, varies during growing season. WMEAC expects interns to follow a regular schedule but understands the need for flexibility. Some weekend work is required.

Location:

The Three Ponds site is in the City of Grand Rapids along Plaster Creek Trail, near the intersection of 28th Street and Eastern. Some work will be done in our office; most work will be done on the site.

WMEAC will accept two or more interns for each semester. The interns will work cooperatively.

Interested persons may email with resume and cover letter:

Patricia Pennell

Rain Gardens and Low Impact Development program coordinator

West Michigan Environmental Action Council

1007 Lake Drive SE

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506

616-451-3051 ext. 29

patricia@raingardens.org

www.raingardens.org

www.wmeac.org

