

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Horticulture Internship

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| Position Title: | Horticulture Intern |
| Employment Classification: | Internship |
| Reports to: | Horticulturalist |
| Department: | Facilities Department |
| Salary: | Unpaid |

Internship Description

The Living Coast Discovery Center (LCDC) is seeking enthusiastic and motivated individuals interested in gaining experience in native plant horticulture to participate in a part-time, unpaid internship.

LCDC is located on the Sweetwater Marsh Refuge, a protected home for hundreds of species of native plants and animals.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the internship, interns will be able to:

- Learn the names and characteristics of a dozen native plants
- Learn the difference between coastal sage scrub and chaparral
- Learn the definitions of terms such as native, nonnative, invasive, annual, perennial, and pollination
- Have an idea of the natural history of San Diego County
- Learn how to plant and care for a new plant
- Learn how to prune garden plants

DUTIES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Watering plants
- Trimming and pruning plants
- Treating plants for disease and pests (white fly, aphids, scales, mold, etc.)
- Weeding and raking
- Maintaining, cleaning, and organizing LCDC greenhouse and other work spaces
- Cleaning and maintaining gardening tools
- Plant propagation, including plant identification, seed gathering, seed planting, and transplanting potted plants
- Processing green waste and maintaining disposal area
- Help with maintenance projects, which may include painting and light carpentry work
- Conceive and complete an intern project

QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS

Required Qualifications

- Ability to execute or quickly learn the duties listed above
- A positive attitude and ability to work as a team and with minimal supervision
- Ability to work outdoors, including sun, rain, wind, and heat.
- Be willing to learn about all aspects of horticulture and San Diego County's biomes,

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particularly the coastal sage scrub biome

- Participants must be able to adjust to changes within the daily routines
- Ages 16 and up only.

Desired Qualifications:

- Desire to gain experience with gardening or plant care.
- Some knowledge of native plants and endemic species

Commitment:

- Interns will spend 12 weeks working within the Horticulture Department
- Shifts are 4 hours, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm., with a minimum of 1 day per week on Monday or Tuesday
- Schedules will depend on each intern's availability and must be consistent for the duration of the internship.
- Interns will be responsible for one project that they will be able to work on over the course of the internship and will participate in other professional learning activities.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Essential functions may include: lifting up to 20 pounds, climbing ladders, walking on uneven or wet surfaces, and working in various weather conditions. Reasonable accommodations can be made.

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete the online **Internship Application Form** that can be found on our Internship webpage. In the application you will need to submit both a cover letter and resume. Applications without these documents will not be considered for the position.

Our internship interview consists of 3 stages. Stage 1 is reviewing applications, resumes, and cover letters. Stage 2 is a phone interview. Stage 3 is an in person interview. After submitting your application, we will contact you for your next steps.

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