



Sustainable Urban Agriculture Internship



Organization Description

Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center is a garden and nutrition education center that uses hands-on cooking, gardening, and science education to teach students and families about nutrition and environmental stewardship. We provide classes, field trips, and community events to children and adults from National City and around San Diego County. Our purpose is to connect children and families to the source of our food and to encourage adventurous and healthy eating.

Internship Description

The purpose of the internship is to gain hands-on experience in sustainable urban agriculture. Interns will have the unique opportunity to work in an organic urban farm that actively engages the community to support natural ecosystems, human health, and water conservation. The Sustainable Urban Agriculture intern will have an opportunity to practice critical techniques including: creating a crop plan that is appropriate for our region, practicing basic propagation techniques, identifying plant disease and pests and incorporating integrated pest management, and strengthening skills in bed preparation, irrigation, and overall garden maintenance. They will also learn about economic, environmental and social sustainability, as well as the different components of the food system.

Internship Objectives

The intern will work with our Gardens and Facilities Manager and staff to identify a personal project that covers three self-established objectives in one or more projects throughout the length of the internship. The goals will include a 1) hands on practice objective, 2) education/outreach objective, and 3) reflection/Research objective. The project will give the intern the opportunity to apply his/her knowledge and skills in an urban farm in order to gain experience working in a professional setting,

while improving Olivewood Gardens' sustainability projects and practices by producing a project that will surpass the intern's time at Olivewood.

The intern will:

- Identify and implement a personal project with three self-established goals that meet our program standards by analyzing issues and implementing solutions related to small-scale urban agriculture.
- Support our small scale organic food production, education, advocacy, and social service programs.
- Assist with garden tasks such as identifying plant disease, pests, watering, weeding, building compost, digging and clearing beds, planting, harvesting, propagation and more.
- Help with programming and community events; including teaching youth and adults about sustainable practices, and setting-up and cleaning-up.

Commitment

The Sustainable Urban Agriculture Intern will work with supervisor to create a personalized schedule to complete approximately 180 hours in the semester. Interns will also be asked to assist with occasional weekend events.

Qualifications

We are seeking energetic individuals enrolled in the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate Program at San Diego City College, with a keen interest in supporting an urban farm and learning center in National City; fastidious attention to detail; and a vibrant appreciation for the life lessons learned in the garden.

To Apply

1. Submit a Volunteer Application (<http://olivewoodgardens.org/get-involved/743-2/>).
2. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Coordinator of Volunteers and Outreach Cristina Juarez at cristina@olivewoodgardens.org.
3. Accepted applicants will be interviewed prior to placement.