



# Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut, Inc.

BARNES NATURE CENTER • INDIAN ROCK NATURE PRESERVE

## **Summer Internship Opportunity**

The Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut (ELCCT) is seeking a dynamic individual to play a key role in the delivery of its mission. ELCCT is a non-profit environmental education and conservation organization located in west central Connecticut that serves environmental education and conservation needs throughout the state of Connecticut. The services provided by ELCCT are aligned with the organization's mission to "Inspire the appreciation and enjoyment of nature through education and conservation, fostering a healthy environment and an improved quality of life". In addition, ELCCT serves as a Land Trust, protecting and managing wildlife habitat for the benefit of plants, wildlife, and people. ELCCT owns 13 pieces of open space in Bristol, Burlington and Southington, Connecticut for a total of over 750 acres.

The Sustainable Garden Internship is an entry-level position. Now in its either year, the focus of this internship is to grow fresh and healthy food that is donated to organizations that help individuals in need while offering educational programming about sustainable agriculture and volunteer opportunities to members of the community. If you enjoy working with your hands, getting out into the sun and soil, and learning about how to grow fresh, beautiful produce, then this could be a great fit for you.

The Sustainable Garden Intern will gain:

- Experience with small-scale, sustainable and eco-friendly vegetable growing techniques
- Opportunity to make connections with environmental professionals
- Management and leadership experience working with diverse populations and a variety of ages
- Independent planning and execution of specific tasks under the guidance of the ELCCT staff

### **Dates of Employment:**

Start and end dates are flexible, but the position generally runs May through August.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

Daily duties can include seeding, planting, pruning, weeding, bed prep, vegetable harvest, and deliveries.

Interns will also assist with various assigned projects throughout the internship, such as leading harvest days with summer campers and leading educational tours/programs for the public.

Oversee and organize volunteers and coordinate with food pantries.

### **Qualifications and Experience:**

We are looking for individuals who are passionate about learning how to grow food and develop community. The Intern must be responsible, dedicated and organized. While some growing experience is desired, it is not required. This experience is a great opportunity for someone interested in a job in horticulture, farming, or community organizing.

- Garden planning, seed planting, weeding and harvest experience is preferred

- Some teaching experience and working with volunteers is preferred
- Be eager to learn and share knowledge
- Be comfortable working with the public, school-age children and adults
- Be self-motivated, able to follow directions and work independently
- Be able to lift heavy items (20 - 50 pounds)
- Be able to work outdoors and use a variety of gardening equipment such as shovels, rakes, wheel barrow
- Tractor operation experience a plus but not required

**How to Apply:**

Send the following materials by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to Lauren at [lprior@elcct.org](mailto:lprior@elcct.org).

- Cover Letter- indicating how this internship program can help you attain your goals
- Resume
- Contact information for three references

**Job Compensation:** Minimum wage (\$15.69/hr.), approximately 20 hours weekly for 12-13 weeks.