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Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute

PCEI Nature Center Steward Intern

Volunteer position description:

The Nature Center is the 17.4-acre home base of the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute. Open from dawn to dusk, the PCEI Nature Center is comprised of wetlands, nature trails totaling 1-mile in length, a universally accessible pathway, and a bicycle pump track, in addition to other features. The Nature Center Steward Interns will be responsible for maintaining and overseeing the daily, seasonal upkeep of the Nature Center. Interns will work with all staff, but will work closely with the Restoration Coordinator, in addition to any AmeriCorps members serving with the Restoration program. Interns are expected to prioritize projects and create a consistent work schedule to maintain the Nature Center and its facilities. Interns may be asked to direct and lead volunteers in Nature Center projects.

Responsibilities:

- Assist in the care and maintenance of the John Crock Learning Nursery by:
 - Propagating, mulching, potting, and weeding plants
 - Developing and implementing an irrigation schedule
 - Sowing, collecting, and sorting seeds
- Assist with habitat restoration activities on and off site by:
 - Installing fencing and plant protectors
 - Planting native plant species for stream bank stabilization and erosion control
 - Removing invasive plant species by mowing, digging, or pulling
 - Monitoring for invasive plants
- Ensure the PCEI Nature Center is a welcoming, outdoor facility by:
 - Tidying up and organizing storage sheds
 - Periodically walking trails and seasonal creeks to pick-up garbage
 - Weeding, raking, and mowing
 - Maintaining trail system and seasonal garden beds
 - Composting appropriate materials as needed
- Lead volunteers in above listed projects and maintenance

Qualifications:

- Possess knowledge in one or more of the following fields: ecology, conservation, native plants and/or horticulture
- Experience working outdoors in various conditions
- Knowledge of small machine operations and general tool maintenance
- Posses excellent and creative organizational skills
- Ability to work in both independent and large group settings in an effective manner

Schedule:

- May – August, 10-20 hours/week

For more information:

Amanda Argona, PCEI Outreach Coordinator, (208) 882-1444 or serving@pcei.org

The Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI) is a grassroots organization working on regional conservation and environmental issues. Since 1986, we have worked to increase citizen involvement in decisions that affect our region's environment through watershed restoration, education and sustainable living programs.