

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Volunteer Program

Building a Community of Park Stewards



Cuyahoga Valley National Park Internship Opportunity

- Position Title:** Botanical Intern (2 positions)
- Dates of Internship:** Mid May - Mid November
- Hours:** 40 hours per week/Monday through Thursday.
- Location:** Homestead - 671 W. Streesboro Rd. Peninsula OH 44264
- Duties:** Interns work with park staff and volunteers on a variety of vegetation-related projects at the park, including exotic-plant management, native-plant propagation, seed collection and restoration. Park interns travel with staff to manage exotic plants at Hopewell Culture National Historical Park (www.nps.gov/hocu) and Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial (www.nps.gov/libo) and are expected to travel to the USDA's Big Flats Plant Material Center in upstate New York to clean seeds collected in the fall. Interns assist with all aspects of habitat restoration at the park, including collecting native seeds and cuttings; propagating native plants at the park's nursery; preparing sites for planting; and planting native plants at restoration sites. Interns and park staff work with large groups of volunteers on many projects, including exotic-plant control and revegetation, but interns also may undertake independent, solitary projects. In addition, interns may have opportunities to assist on other park projects, including coyote surveys, deer surveys, butterfly surveys and vegetation monitoring.
- Skills Required:** Self motivation, conscientiousness, patience, and ability to work independently and with large groups.
- Requirements:** Background in biological science with interest in fieldwork. Applicants must complete a National Park Service Volunteer-in-Parks Agreement and may be subject to a background check. U.S. citizenship and driver's license required. Open to all U.S. citizens.
- Salary/Benefits:**
- \$160/week
 - Furnished park housing and utilities
 - Federal per diem while in travel status
 - Americorps Education Award up to \$2,775
 - Interns are eligible for injury compensation and tort claims the same as federal employees and are considered to be federal employees for those purposes only.
- Outcomes:** Result of internship will be practical experience managing vegetation in multiple disciplines at a National Park. Park staff will train interns to (1) identify plants; (2) understand methods to manage exotic plants using chemical and mechanical techniques, including certification as a state-herbicide applicator, if interested; (3) use GIS and GPS technology; (4) propagate native plants; and (5) safely use chainsaws and other tools to manage exotic plants.
- How to Apply:** Positions will be advertised by American Conservation Experience (www.usaconservation.org) in early February. Contact Cuyahoga Valley NP plant ecologist Chris Davis at 330-342-0764 x5/christopher_davis@nps.gov or vegetation-crew leader Andrew Bishop at 440-343-7194/andrew_bishop@nps.gov for more information.

