Internship Title: Recreation Specialist

Internship Site: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, St. Johnsbury, VT District Office. (If needed, internship supervisor will help arrange for housing in close proximity to the parcels being evaluated.)

Description: The goal of this internship opportunity is to develop protocol for assessing user information for public land. The St. Johnsbury District of the Agency of Natural Resources is responsible for the management of public access on nearly 250,000 acres of conserved land. Generally we have a reasonable understanding of the types of uses occurring on this property but the intensity of use is something that we do not have a good understanding of. This internship would help bring quantitate data into the conversations related to managing public use.

The successful applicant will assist with the design and implementation of a visitor survey for numerous parcels of public land in the Northeast Kingdom. Utilizing various tools, such as register boxes, infrared and magnetic counters, direct observation and visitor surveys we hope to develop a better understanding of the level and types of uses occurring on public land. Efforts will begin with more heavily used parcels such as Willoughby State Forest, and Groton State Forest and as time permits, smaller, less popular parcels will be assessed.

The intern will have the ability to assist with finalizing the work plan for the term of this internship and tailoring this learning opportunity to suit both of our needs and interests.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:

Desire to work with various natural resource professionals in a team setting

Great communication skills

Understanding of statistical sampling methodology for collecting and analyzing visitor information

Ability to utilize GIS for the purpose of producing maps and locating sampling locations

*Rubenstein students currently in their first year, sophomore and junior year are eligible to apply.*

Supervision: Supervision will be provided by the Louis Bushey, Stewardship Forester.

Start and End Dates: Mid-May – Mid-August, 2016 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

Total Hours: 20 hours/week, 12 weeks
Compensation: $12.50/hour. Earning internship credit through the Rubenstein School Internship Program is required.

How to apply: Step by step application instructions are available on the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program website. Applications are due by 4pm, Friday, January 29th, 2016 through Blackboard.