



Perennial Internship Program – Summer 2025

Internship Position Description

Internship Title: Vermont Forest Health Program Intern

Internship Site: Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) – Essex Junction, VT

Description: This internship will work with Forest Health Program staff at FPR, primarily on the establishment of ash demonstration forests throughout Vermont, though other Forest Health opportunities may arise. With emerald ash borer (EAB) threatening every species of ash in Vermont, identifying sites to protect and to be used for education are increasingly important. This is a collaborative project that will provide the intern with experience in working with various programs and departments within the Agency of Natural Resources, as well as with our Abenaki partners.

This work will involve site selection for both black-ash-specific, and multi-ash-species demonstration forests. Depending on the site, activities may include:

Site preparation and establishment, biocontrol release, seed collection, lingering ash monitoring, and participation in black ash pounding workshop(s).

Skills practiced: Tree identification, EAB identification, Tree health metrics, ArcGIS, possible public outreach

Working conditions: This work may require significant off-trail hiking, often in areas with difficult terrain (e.g., steep slopes; swamps). Travel throughout the state will be required, though the intern will be able to ride in state-owned vehicles along with FPR staff.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework*: Tree identification (e.g., dendrology); ArcGIS experience (intro course at minimum); comfort in working in remote areas

Supervision: Josh Halman, Forest Health Program Manager, Vermont FPR

Start and End Dates: (Mid-May to Mid-August 2025 – exact start/end dates are negotiable)

Total Hours: (20 hours/week for 12 weeks)

Compensation: \$18/hour

How to apply:

Rubenstein students who will have completed their sophomore or junior year by summer 2025 are eligible to apply. Students graduating in May 2025 are not eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.

1. Click the following link to view the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Descriptions in Handshake:

<https://uvm.joinhandshake.com/employers/226837>

- If asked to log in: click “UVM Net ID Login” & login.
- Click the Favorite button to enable easier searches in the future.

2. Click “View All Jobs” in Jobs at Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program box on right side of page.

3. You should now see the Perennial Internship opportunities! Click “View Details” to learn more about each position.

- Please do take the time to carefully read each individual description so that you don’t miss a great opportunity by judging an internship solely on its title.
- You may apply for up to **three** Perennial Internships.
- All applications are due by **11:59pm, on Friday, February 7th, 2025.**

4. You’ll need to upload both required documents in Handshake before you can apply for any Perennial Internship:

- Click on your name at top right of screen in Handshake
- Select Documents.

5. Please upload all documents as PDFs. The following are the required documents:

- Resume
- Cover Letter
 - You should write and upload a unique cover letter for each position to which you are applying.
 - In your cover letter, provide the name & contact information for at least one professional reference. This could be someone who supervised you in a past work/internship/volunteer position, or a professor or teacher, etc. The person listed should not be the person who completes your recommendation form.

6. In addition to the documents listed above, a **recommendation form will need to be completed by a Rubenstein faculty, graduate student, or staff member of your choosing**. When you ask your recommender if they are willing to complete the form to support your application, please provide your recommender:

- This link: [RECOMMENDATION FORM](#)
- Only one recommendation form needs to be completed regardless of how many Perennial Internships you are applying for.
- Your recommender will complete & submit this form online and then your recommendation will be confidentially added to your application(s). This recommendation form needs to be submitted by the February 7th, deadline.

7. Make sure that your resume and cover letter(s) are as strong as they can be! Utilize the resources around you:

- Get your resume and cover letter reviewed by a Career Counselor at the Career Center. You can check the Career Center's drop-in hours [here](#). The Career Center also offers a guide on building your resume available [here](#).
- Set up an appointment with one of Rubenstein's Career Coaches - [Emily LeForce](#) or [Cathy Shiga-Gattullo](#) - or with PIP Coordinator, [Sarah Mell](#). Sarah Mell will also be available on Wednesdays from 1pm-3pm for PIP Drop-ins! Just swing by Aiken 220 to connect!

8. If you are selected to interview for a Perennial Internship, you will be contacted by the site to set up an interview during late February to early March.