



Rubenstein School of Environment  
and Natural Resources

## Perennial Internship Program – Summer 2026

### Internship Position Description

#### **Internship Title:**

UVM Extension Forestry Climate Resilience Intern

#### **Internship Site:**

This position is primarily field based at forest sites around the state but will also include some computer work that can be completed at the Aiken Center, the South Burlington Extension Office (Kennedy Drive), the intern's home office, or other remote location of choice.

#### **Description:**

Join the UVM Extension Forestry Program as a Climate Resilience Intern and play a vital role in assessing climate-focused forest management across Vermont and telling a compelling story about these efforts to reach a wide audience.

As an intern, you will work closely with graduate research assistant Nick Sibley to collect forest inventory data at locations around the state. Along with helping with field data collection and entry, the intern will be responsible for telling a story about the forest, the landowner, and their climate-focused efforts, to a wide audience. This effort involves building upon the UVM Extension Forestry's [Stories of Forest Climate Adaptation StoryMap](#) using photos, text, and short videos. You will also have opportunities to work on Extension outreach projects, such as blog and social media posts, factsheets, and web and e-newsletter content.

Most of the work will be in the field and because of driving time to/from the field sites, workdays may be long. A personal vehicle is not required but may be helpful. You will need to transport yourself to a central location for carpooling to field sites, which can be along a bus route if needed (e.g., the LINK Express buses run along major travel corridors).

**\*Rubenstein students currently in their sophomore and junior years are eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required. \***

**Desired qualifications/skills/coursework\*:**

- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work both independently and with others
- Willingness to work outdoors in remote locations and inclement weather
- Ability to travel across uneven terrain carrying field gear
- A positive attitude
- Creativity
- Attention to detail
- Knowledge of forests and forestry is desired but not required
- Experience with StoryMap is desired but not required

**Supervision:**

Dr. Ali Kosiba, Extension Assistant Professor of Forestry and State Extension Forester

Nick Sibley, Graduate Research Assistant

**Start and End Dates:**

Mid-May – Mid-August 2026 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

**Total Hours:**

40 hours/week for 12 weeks

**Compensation:**

\$18/hour

**How to apply:****How to apply:**

**Rubenstein students who will have completed their sophomore or junior year by summer 2026 are eligible to apply. Students graduating in May 2026 are not eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.**

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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 the 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 Wednesday, February 4th, 2026.**

4. You’ll need to upload a Resume, Cover Letter, and Recommender File in Handshake before you can apply for any Perennial Internship:

- Click on your name at top right of screen in Handshake
- Select Documents.
- 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.
    - ♣ Recommender File (see below) - as you will not have access to the form, you are asked to upload a PDF with the name and email of the recommender to whom you have sent the recommender form.

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**5. 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 and 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 4th, deadline.**

**6. 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 the PIP Coordinator, [Sarah Mell](#). Just swing by Aiken 220 to connect!

**7. 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.**

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