

Sylvania Wilderness Invasives 2016 Team Leader Wanted



The Friends of Sylvania is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect and preserve the Sylvania Wilderness. We are looking for a motivated team leader to lead and work alongside 4 interns documenting and removing terrestrial invasive plants in and around the Sylvania Wilderness. This work is partially supported by a grant. This is a great opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience while working to protect one of the few remnants of virgin northern old-growth forest remaining in the Great Lakes region. It is our goal to minimize the threat of invasive plants in the Sylvania Wilderness and to educate, empower, and inspire our interns. For more information about Sylvania and Friends of Sylvania, please go to www.FriendsofSylvania.org.

LOCATION: The Sylvania Wilderness and Recreational Area is located within the Ottawa National Forest in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, about 7 miles southwest of Watersmeet, MI.

EMPLOYMENT TERMS: A minimum of 100 hours at the rate of \$16/hour, spread throughout the 2016 field season. The intern supervision will be shared between the team leader and 2 project coordinators/team leaders. The interns will be working approximately 8 days in June, 12 days in July, and 4 days in August, for a total of about 200 hours. The work schedule is somewhat uncertain because the time of year when the targeted invasives are most susceptible depends on the plant species and the weather.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Invasive Team will assist the Friends of Sylvania (FoS) in their invasive plant monitoring and control work in the Sylvania Wilderness and Recreational Area. Specifically, the team leader will:

- lead and work alongside 4 interns removing and controlling invasive thistles, spotted knapweed, garlic mustard, barberry, honeysuckle, etc.

- work with/assist the students in the documentation of the field work: maintaining a daily record of the work done in Sylvania on the Friends of Sylvania blog (www.Friendsofsylvania.org/FOSblog), updating Excel records of invasive plant sites and documenting new sites using GPS and Excel spreadsheets
- be responsible for the care and maintenance of equipment provided for this project
- keep good communication with the project coordinators/leaders via the FoS blog, phone, and meetings

QUALIFICATIONS:

- good leadership skills and high quality control standards
- Excellent outdoor skills: GPS, map, compass, paddling, swimming, survival skills, first-aid
- good communication and organization skills
- good documentation skills (basic proficiency in MS Word and Excel, and ability to learn some software applications)
- botany background preferred and a love of wilderness
- ability to work in rugged country under sometimes difficult circumstances

INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDITS: We would be willing to coordinate with an institutional instructor to assist you in obtaining academic credit for this project.

RUSTIC ACCOMMODATIONS: Free camping and/or free dormitory accommodations will be provided in Sylvania. Note well: team members need to provide their own transportation to and from Sylvania. Carpooling will be encouraged.

TO APPLY: Please send your resume and two references (names, phone numbers, and email addresses) to Wally at wabrinkm@wisc.edu **before April 20, 2016**. The resume should include:

- a list of relevant coursework and other educational training, including major and minor fields of study, course work grades and overall GPA



- a list and brief description of past employment or volunteer work experience related to this project
- a description of your level of competence in the skills listed under the heading 'Qualifications' above

If you have questions please contact the e-mail above or call 608/222.6717 or 608/698.5144 .

Suitable candidates will be contacted to schedule interviews