

Judea Garden Internship: Steep Rock Association

“a combination of the people, the realization of how fundamentally important the work of growing food is, and the realization that all that I’ve learned in Biology has such a direct impact on all we do ... this experience will surely influence all that I do (or a lot of what I do).” (2020 JG Intern)

Reports to: Denise Arturi, Judea Garden Manager

About Steep Rock Association: Steep Rock Association (SRA) is a nationally accredited land trust whose mission is to conserve ecologically and historically significant landscapes and riparian corridors in and around Washington, CT and to enhance the community’s connection to nature through outreach, education, and passive recreation.

Overview: Two paid, part-time, Judea Garden Internships are available for high school (16 years old by end of summer) and college students to gain hands-on, real world experiences on sustainable agriculture and current food issues by working in SRA’s food bank garden. Now in its 13th growing season, Judea Garden has grown, harvested and distributed over 40,000 lbs. of fresh produce to members of our community with limited financial resources through local food banks, senior centers, and social service agencies. The JG Internship provides lessons on sustainable agriculture and current food issues. Interns will identify and control insects and diseases, identify weeds and their properties, use succession harvesting through planting for fall crops, harvest and distribute foods, and participate in all garden tasks. At the end of the summer, interns will present a project showing what they learned to the local community as part of our Open Garden Day on August 21.

Expectations:

- Keep a positive attitude, have an eagerness to learn and a willingness to do one’s best.
- Ability to work both independently and as a member of a small team.
- Maintain accountability, responsibility, and respectfulness in one’s work, including daily tasks and logistics (keeping start times/end times)
- Develop learning goals and create an approved product (presentation, article, photo journey, etc.) at end of the internship that reflects upon the experience and knowledge gained.
- Work with and guide garden volunteers.
- Follow all safety guidelines and protocols.

Specific tasks:

- Identify and control insects and diseases.
- Identify weeds and their properties.
- Use succession planting methods for harvesting through fall crops.
- Harvest and distribute foods.
- Maintain the gardening and harvest journals.
- Create and carry out a research-based project and present at Open Garden on 8/21.
- Participate in all garden tasks.

Qualifications:

- Interest in protecting and improving the environment for both human and natural communities.
- Capacity to work outdoors in myriad weather and insect conditions (precipitation, heat, cold, ticks, etc.)
- Willingness to learn.
- Experience in gardening work a plus
- Enthusiasm for SRA’s conservation mission
- Good interpersonal & communication skills

Hours/Compensation: Employment period is June 28, 2020 to August 20, 2020 unless arranged otherwise. Weekly hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Hours may be adjusted due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Compensation is the CT minimum hourly wage (\$12/hr).

To Apply: Submit cover letter expressing interest in position and resume/cv to info@steeprocksassoc.org.

Working with Steep Rock Association:

Steep Rock Association (SRA) has a collegial and team-oriented work environment. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and act in accordance with laws applicable to employment practices. For more information on Steep Rock Association, please visit www.steeprocksoc.org.