



Horticulture Internship

Department: Horticulture

Hours: Full-Time, Seasonal

Start Date: May 2025

Application Deadline: February 1, 2025, or until positions are filled

Horticulture Internships at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens provide a unique educational experience in the field of horticulture. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to work closely with horticulture staff in diverse aspects of public garden maintenance. In addition to practical garden maintenance experience, Interns may have opportunities to participate in plant propagation, greenhouse management, and plant collections curation.

Candidates

Internship candidates may be diverse in their educational backgrounds and future career goals and will be considered regardless of race, gender, or educational background. Candidates pursuing a degree in horticulture, botany, biology, or environmental resource management are encouraged to apply. Previous education or practical experience in horticulture is desirable but not required.

Term and Compensation

The term of the Horticulture Internship will be for the summer season, generally 8 to 10 weeks. Start dates are flexible, but Internships generally begin in May and run through August. Interns are paid \$14/hour and are welcome to take unpaid vacation time off occasionally during the summer, with approval from the Director of Horticulture. Additionally, Interns will be invited to join occasional staff field trips.

Obligations and Duties

Working closely with the Head Horticulturist and other horticulture staff, Interns assist in the numerous activities required to maintain the gardens during the growing season including planting, pruning, mulching, and weeding. Additionally, Interns must have the ability to learn and responsibly operate small power equipment such as backpack blowers and golf carts. Ability to perform physical duties in all weather conditions and lift 25 to 50 pounds is required.

Additional Background Information

The Internship at Jenkins provides an exceptional opportunity to learn about two specialties:

Native plants and naturalistic landscape design: Interns will be trained in environmental horticulture, Jenkins' unique approach to gardening. Gardening in this ecological context is the best long-term strategy for stewardship, conservation and sustainable landscape design.

Rhododendrons, azaleas, and related species: As a newly created public garden in 1976, the original “Master Plan for Development” specified and emphasized ericaceous plants in the scientific collections because of environmental considerations. Related ericaceous plants include mountain laurels, pieris, enkianthus, leucothoe, blueberries, and many others. Jenkins’ collections of both *Rhododendron* and *Kalmia* are nationally accredited through the American Public Gardens Association’s Plant Collection Network.

About

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is a 48-acre public garden located in Devon, Pennsylvania. Since its inception in 1976, Jenkins has celebrated the wonder of plants and place, serving as a destination for education, conservation, and community connection. Jenkins is open daily and is free of admission.

Application Procedure and Deadline

Submit completed Internship application form and cover letter to employment@jenkinsarboretum.org. Deadline for application is February 1, 2025, or until position is filled. Applications can be found online at www.jenkinsarboretum.org/internships



Summer Horticulture Internship Application

Contact Information: Please complete all fields.

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

Education: List current or most recent first.

Degree Held:

Major:

Minor:

Institution:

Date of Completion:

Degree Held:

Major:

Minor:

Institution:

Date of Completion:

Work Experience: List current or most recent first.

Position:

Employer:

Dates of Employment:

Position:

Employer:

Dates of Employment:

Position:

Employer:

Dates of Employment:

When would you be available to begin the Internship? Please list earliest start.

How did you hear about the Internship?

References: List three references.

Name/Position:

Phone Number:

Institution:

Email:

Name/Position:

Phone Number:

Institution:

Email:

Name/Position:

Phone Number:

Institution:

Email:

Please prepare a brief, one-page essay describing why you would like to work as a Summer Horticulture Intern at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens. Describe your past experiences in horticulture (or related fields), how the internship experience might relate to your academic or professional goals, and attach any additional information you would like to include with this application.