

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



Environmental Leadership Internship

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) offers the Environmental Leadership Internship (ELI) each field season for an unpaid internship in conserving natural public landscapes in the Southern Rocky Mountain Region through land stewardship and education. This internship is suited for those looking to learn more in the areas of trail building, public land conservation, the nonprofit sector of the outdoor industry, and natural resource management.

Dates: RMFI field season begins in early April and end in mid-November.

Internship Location: The RMFI office is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. RMFI project sites are located primarily in the Pikes Peak Region.

Compensation: This position is an unpaid internship.

Age: 18+

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) is a nonprofit environmental stewardship organization working to protect and conserve public lands in Southern Colorado through volunteer-based trail and restoration projects, environmental education, and restoration research. For more information, please visit www.rmfi.org.

Do you love working outside? This is an exciting opportunity to join the RMFI team. This position will work in some of the Pikes Peak Region's most outstanding natural areas, as well as leading community volunteers, and students in completing ecological stewardship and restoration projects.

INTERNSHIP SUMMARY:

The ELI works under the direction of the Community Engagement Coordinator and while in the field the Trail Crew Leader. An ELI will work as part of the RMFI staff. ELI's will learn trail building, maintenance and restoration objectives and techniques while working one-on-one with RMFI's professional crews. ELI's will also help coordinate and run RMFI's community volunteer projects, these projects take place primarily on weekends and select weekdays from mid-April to November. Project sites may include Garden of the Gods and other City of Colorado Springs parks, El Paso County park locations, and various U.S. Forest Service trails like Barr Trail and Devils Playground. This position will consist mostly of fieldwork with some office work and events representing RMFI in the community.

SPECIFIC DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist with the supervision of volunteers in the completion of trail and restoration projects alongside RMFI Staff.
- Assist with the instruction and management of volunteers, students, and other program participants in trail and restoration techniques, field safety, and project objectives.
- Assist with the management of tools and equipment in the field and in the office.
- Participate in project documentation in the field and in the office.
- Assist in promoting and conducting outreach for RMFI programs at events.
- Development of new skills and techniques as necessitated by projects.
- Assist with various in-office projects and tasks as assigned.

DESIRED SKILLS and ATTRIBUTES:

- Ability to work independently with little supervision.
- Provide clear, effective, and timely communication with RMFI supervisor and staff
- Strong conservation ethic and passion for public land stewardship.
- Committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be a minimum of 18 years of age and no longer enrolled in high school
- High level of physical fitness. Lifting a weight of 50 pounds throughout the day is common. Additional strenuous physical activity may include walking or hiking on uneven and challenging terrain and lifting objects heavier than 50 pounds with team assistance.
- Ability to lead with RMFI's Core Values and mission.
- Must pass a background check.
- Self transportation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Volunteer management
- Trail building, maintenance, and restoration techniques
- Effective communication through teaching
- Environmental education
- Leave No Trace
- Nonprofit operations

This internship requires strenuous fieldwork, at times in inclement weather (such as but not limited to snow, mud, rain, heat, etc.). Students studying environmental science, environmental policy, or in a natural science major are encouraged to apply. College enrollment is not required, if you are looking to gain experience in trail building, maintenance and restoration, land management, and experience in the non-profit sector, we encourage you to apply.

WORK SCHEDULE:

Interns work primarily in the field with RMFI staff with a mix of weekdays and weekends, from approximately 7:00 am to 3:30 pm. Scheduling is flexible, but interns are asked to commit to working a minimum of 7 hours/week on average. Field work to office work will be a split of 80% field work and 20% office work on average.

WAGES and BENEFITS:

The ELI program is an unpaid internship. Interns participating in this program work in a volunteer capacity and are not entitled to wages, compensation, or benefits for the time spent in the internship. RMFI does not derive an immediate advantage from the activities performed by the intern, and the education received by the intern from the ELI program is for the express benefit of the intern.

TO APPLY:

Please send a resume and brief cover letter to:

Calla Balliett
Community Engagement Coordinator
calla@rmfi.org

Please title your email as follows: "Environmental Leadership Internship_YourName."

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled. Interviews of well-qualified applicants are anticipated to begin immediately.

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is committed to a policy of equal treatment and opportunity in every aspect of its relations with staff members and prospective employees, and will not discriminate against applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation.