



# Michigan Nature Association

*Protecting Michigan's natural heritage since 1952*

2310 Science Parkway, Suite 100  
Okemos, MI 48864  
866.223.2231

## STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANT Volunteer Internship

**Location:** Variable by day – work will take place at numerous MNA sanctuaries across west/central Michigan

**Duration:** Negotiable, May–September is preferred

**Time Commitment:** Applicants should be available a minimum of one full day – can be up to 10 hours (including drive time) – per week and arrange for their own transportation to the day's meeting location. Options to carpool with staff or other interns may be available. Internship will be considered fulfilled when the Stewardship Assistant has completed 20 full days of volunteer service with MNA.

**Required Experience:** Some previous experience in the environmental field – can be through education, volunteering, past internships or jobs, etc. Ability to perform physically demanding work outside, in a wide range of weather conditions, while maintaining a positive attitude. Ability to communicate professionally and politely is a must as there is a high level of interaction involved with staff, stewards, and volunteers.

**Responsibilities:** The Stewardship Assistant's primary responsibility will be to assist MNA staff, stewards, and volunteers in the management of sanctuaries through various forms of field activity, which may include: removal of invasive species, trail and boundary maintenance, participating in controlled burns, conducting species surveys, site monitoring, etc.

### **This volunteer internship will include opportunities to:**

- Gain valuable insight into the diverse and often hidden natural environment of Michigan. With 20 sanctuaries spread across the west/central lower peninsula, interns will be exposed to a wide variety of Michigan's animals and plants, some that are exclusive to the state.
- Work outdoors in an academic setting that also involves getting one's hands dirty. You will learn basic plant identification skills, become familiar with high quality examples of many of the natural communities that occur in west/central Michigan, and gain experience with a range of common management techniques used in the restoration field.
- Work with experts in the various fields that share a common goal in protecting and preserving our environment. Botanists, wildlife biologists, ecologists, etc. are working directly at MNA or are closely affiliated with our organization.
- Become part of an energetic and highly motivated non-profit land protection organization.

**\*Please Note:** This is an unpaid volunteer internship.

### **Background Information on MNA:**

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA) manages and maintains over 175 nature sanctuaries across the state, totaling 12,000 acres, through ownership and conservation easement. Many of the sanctuaries house rare habitats and species and are managed to protect their viability.

### **For More Information or to Apply:**

Please contact MNA Regional Stewardship Organizer, Samantha Brodley, at sbrodley@michigannature.org or 517-643-6864. Application materials should include resume, cover letter, and contact information for 3 references. Positions will be open until filled, but preference will be given to applications received before March 29. For more information on MNA, please see our web site at [michigannature.org](http://michigannature.org).