

JOB TITLE: Plants Program and Invasive Weeds Intern (Un-Paid)  
DEPARTMENT: Stewardship  
POSITION TYPE: Part Time/Seasonal (May - August)  
REPORTS TO: Botanist  
DIRECTLY SUPERVISES: N/A



MISSION: Cottonwood Canyons Foundation (CCF) works to continuously improve the environments of Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons through education and stewardship programs.

The Cottonwood Canyons are a critical and magnificent ecosystem, provide approximately 60% of the drinking water for Salt Lake City, and are a major economic engine for Utah's ski industry. They are also located within one of the most highly-visited portions of national forest in the nation and receive extraordinarily high numbers of visitors and therefore experience high levels of use and recreational pressure.

We see it as extremely important to educate the public who utilize this area for recreation and who rely on it daily for their drinking water, on the canyons' importance and how they can help promote their ecological health. We also aim to provide the community with direct and hands-on ways to give back to this environment through volunteering.

It is our belief that if we all better understand the importance of this area, and if we all take part in helping to improve it, the Cottonwood Canyons will continue to be a healthy environment and watershed and a spectacular place to recreate for generations to come. We're grateful to our partners and community of volunteers for their help in these efforts.

PURPOSE OF POSITION: The Plants Program and Invasive Weeds Intern will work closely with the Botanist and the Invasive Weeds Crew member(s) within various areas of the Native Plants Program, and in addition, may support other stewardship and program efforts within Cottonwood Canyons Foundation. The Native Plants Program involves scouting populations, pulling weeds, restoring native plant populations, and the monitoring of rare plants in the tri-canyons: Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, and Millcreek Canyon.

The Plants Program and Invasive Weeds Intern position will have the opportunity to learn numerous aspects of coordinating a stewardship program. Specifically, the Intern will have the opportunity to shadow the Botanist and Invasive Weed Crew Member(s) while scouting problem areas, as well as support on public weed pulls with volunteers. The Intern will be

given training and guidance with plant identification, scouting, volunteer management, and various other components of the Stewardship and Education programs that CCF coordinates.

#### DESIRED SKILLS AND BACKGROUND:

- ✓ Background in environmental science or other science related program.
- ✓ A willingness to work with volunteers; training will be provided.
- ✓ Strong communication skills.
- ✓ Strong interpersonal skills.

#### KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

- ✓ First Aid / CPR certification (desired, not mandatory).
- ✓ Willingness and ability to volunteer in a dynamic environment, and in a team setting.
- ✓ Willingness and ability to volunteer in a variety of weather conditions and challenging environments.
- ✓ Willingness and ability to perform daily tasks relating to the Invasive Weeds Program, including but not limited to hiking, walking or standing for 2 or more hours, digging and removing weeds, bending over, or carrying heavy bags.
- ✓ Enthusiasm for working with volunteers.
- ✓ Mature and positive attitude. Professionalism and good communication skills.
- ✓ Able to volunteer May-July or August
- ✓ At least 18 years of age.
- ✓ Ability to work legally in the United States.
- ✓ High School Diploma or GED.
- ✓ Able to pass a background check and drug screening as requested.
- ✓ Must have own vehicle with valid insurance and registration to access work sites.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT: Volunteer work is performed generally outdoors. Work will be performed during challenging weather conditions, requires physical labor including: hiking, walking, digging, operating minor tools, lifting, bending, reaching.

#### PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Ability to stay standing or actively walking and hiking on uneven trails and off trail terrain.
- ✓ Ability to lift and carry objects of at least 40 pounds.
- ✓ Ability to lift, bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, push and other strenuous activities.

#### SCHEDULE:

- ✓ Flexible; approx. 10-20 hours per week.
- ✓ Various opportunities Tuesday-Saturday; the ideal candidate will have some flexibility.

#### OPPORTUNITIES:

- ✓ Work closely with the Botanist to hike and scout problem areas in the tri-canyons: Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, and Millcreek Canyon.
- ✓ Work closely with volunteers on select weed-pull projects under the guidance of the Botanist and Operations Director; training will be provided.
- ✓ Learn to identify invasive weed species and how to target problem areas.
- ✓ Assist with larger event coordination.
- ✓ Assist with the training and educational hikes during the Wasatch Wildflower Festival.
- ✓ If desired, opportunity to volunteer occasionally with the Trails Stewardship Program or Educational Programs at Silver Lake, as well as at the Public Lands Information Center.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ✓ Communicate with the Operations Director and/or Botanist regularly.
- ✓ Communicate professionally with staff, partners and volunteers.
- ✓ Represent Cottonwood Canyons Foundation in a positive manner.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: This intern description describes the general purpose and responsibilities assigned to this opportunity and is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and duties that may be assigned or skills that may be required.

INFORMATION TO APPLY: Please submit cover letter and resume to Tim Remkes at [plants@cottonwoodcanyons.org](mailto:plants@cottonwoodcanyons.org). Position(s) open until filled.