

**L-A-D FOUNDATION / PIONEER FOREST SUMMER INTERN**

**JOB TITLE:** Intern – Natural Resource Technician Assistant  
**FULL TIME:** May 19 – August 15 (start and end dates are flexible)  
**LOCATION:** Salem, Missouri  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** 5pm on Monday, April 21, 2025.

**ABOUT US:**

At the L-A-D Foundation, we are dedicated to exemplary stewardship of Pioneer Forest and other natural and cultural areas. We focus on scientific research, education, public recreation, and promoting projects and policies that positively influence the Missouri Ozark region and beyond. Learn more at [www.ladfoundation.org](http://www.ladfoundation.org).

**POSITION SUMMARY:**

As an intern, you will gain beyond-the-classroom experience by engaging in the day-to-day operations and management of a working forest. You will work closely with all members of our team, learning the application of the uneven-aged single tree selection method for timber harvest and the restoration of terrestrial natural communities to enhance biodiversity and forest resilience.

You will participate in ecological monitoring of birds, bees, amphibians, and plants, and learn techniques for treating non-native invasive species. Additionally, you will gain skills in restoring shortleaf pine-oak woodlands and glade ecosystems, along with various other ecological assessment activities related to land management.

You may also have opportunities to collaborate with partner agencies and organizations and attend meetings. This position involves extended periods of outdoor hiking, with occasional long or irregular hours in a remote setting.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

As an intern, you will learn and assist with various routine ecological monitoring and restoration tasks. Your learning and work opportunities will include:

- Managing timber and marking trees for harvest
- Mapping and treating non-native invasive species
- Restoring glades and monitoring vegetation
- Monitoring wildlife to assess land management activities
- Monitoring karst/cave biota

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Applicants should be enrolled in a college or university with a focus on a degree program in natural resources, conservation biology, wildlife biology, or a closely related field. Recent graduates in these fields or those who can demonstrate how this training opportunity will impact their professional employment are also encouraged to apply.

- High school diploma required
- Completion of two semesters of coursework towards an advanced degree, or 6 months of related experience
- Willingness to perform physically demanding work for long and irregular hours
- Preferred knowledge in forest and natural community management, environmental monitoring, Missouri wildlife, dendrology, or plant taxonomy

**ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES:**

- You should be able to work well with a wide variety of people in stressful conditions and follow assignments closely.

- You need to perform physical work for extended and irregular periods under adverse conditions, including extreme summer weather in Missouri. These conditions present frequent possibilities for injury and require long hours in isolated settings.
- You should have a strong interest in forest management, landscape conservation, ecological restoration, wildlife biology, or the management of natural areas.

#### **SALARY/BENEFITS:**

- You will earn \$16-17.50 per hour depending on your education and experience. Time off will be unpaid and discussed with your direct supervisor.
- If your internship requires travel warranting an overnight stay, the Foundation will cover lodging, meals, and incidentals.
- The L-A-D Foundation/Pioneer Forest will not provide health insurance, retirement benefits, withholdings, or any other employee benefits.
- The Foundation will provide liability insurance necessary for completing essential functions, including liability coverage for operating company vehicles and workers' compensation coverage.
- You agree to release the Foundation, the Forest, and its employees, agents, or assigns from any claims or actions arising from personal injury or damage to personal property in fulfillment of this assignment.

#### **LOCATION AND HOUSING:**

Your internship will be based at the Pioneer Forest office in Salem. You will conduct daily field work across various locations within Pioneer Forest, spanning from Montauk State Park to Van Buren, Missouri, and east towards Ellington. You will have access to a Foundation vehicle for work, which you can use to travel between your home and the work location. You will be responsible for recording mileage in a daily logbook.

If you are not already located in the region of Pioneer Forest, a housing supplement may be available. Please note that the use of the Foundation vehicle and housing supplement will be considered taxable benefits, per IRS regulations.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

Salaried and hourly employees are expected to use a mobile device-cellular phone for L-A-D business, as needed.

#### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Please submit a cover letter explaining your interest in the position, along with your resume and two references, to [Dana.Morris@ladfoundation.org](mailto:Dana.Morris@ladfoundation.org). Incomplete applications may result in disqualification from consideration.

#### **DISCLAIMER:**

This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive; an employee will also perform other reasonably related job responsibilities as assigned by immediate supervisor and other management as required. The organization reserves the right to revise or change job duties as the need arises. This job description does not constitute a written or implied contract of employment. Management reserves the right to change job descriptions, job duties, functions, and requirements.

#### **EOE STATEMENT:**

L-A-D Foundation is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, creed, color, ancestry, medical condition, or any other characteristic protected by law.