Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council
Watershed Education Program Internship

The Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council (MFWWC) is seeking an intern for our Watershed Education Program (WEP). For 10 years now, the WEP has provided hands on, place-based watershed education to local public school students in grades 4-6 (Watershed Rangers) and high schools (Watershed Stewards). Both programs offer a standards-based curriculum that integrates into students’ current science classes. Students learn concepts in the classroom and then participate in field studies to practice real-world applications within their local watershed. Field trips often include monitoring, habitat assessment, and service learning opportunities. The program has broad community support, and professionals from local resource management agencies often serve as student mentors during field trips.

The internship is 120 hours over the course of the school year. Average 15 hours per month, with some weeks off during school breaks.

The role of the WEP intern is to assist the Education Coordinator with all aspects of the WEP, including:

- Become familiar with the WEP curricula, Watershed Rangers and Watershed Stewards
- Utilize current WEP curricula as well as pulling from other sources to create innovative lesson plans that directly correlate with Next Generation Science Standards and the curricular needs of teachers
- Plan, teach, and evaluate high quality watershed education lessons in the classroom and in the field, including service learning projects
- Deliver and pick up watershed education resource kits from local schools
- Keep WEP materials and tools clean and organized
- Maintain a flexible internship schedule (usually Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday) in order to be available during scheduled field trips and classroom lessons when possible. The education coordinator will attempt to coordinate these lessons to accommodate UO class schedule.
- Assist with planning and implementation of MFWWC outreach events, serving as a liason between the MFWWC and the public

Our ideal intern should bring the following assets to the Watershed Education Program:
- Experience working with groups of youth in indoor and outdoor settings
- A basic understanding of Watershed Education and monitoring concepts
- A passion for environmental education in public schools
- Excellent communication skills, with both adults and youth
- Enthusiastic presence
• Ability to be organized and prepared, as well as be flexible and innovative when what you prepared is not working
• A reliable and responsible individual who is motivated to make an impact
• Coursework in *Environmental Education Theory and Practice* and *Environmental and Ecological Monitoring* (not required)

During the course of this internship you will utilize and improve upon the above assets, as well as develop new skills, like how to:

• Develop environmental education curriculum, lesson plans, and evaluations
• Engage groups of public school students in hands on, place-based environmental education that creates a life-long sense of stewardship
• Partner with the public school system to enhance the quality of public education
• Partner with resource management agency professionals to create mentorship opportunities for youth
• Understand how a non-profit environmental education program is funded, managed, and sustained
• Collaborate with other local non-profits and agencies to make our programs more effective and sustainable

Working as a volunteer with non-profits and resource management agencies is the best way to make connections and get a foot in the door for future job opportunities!

To apply, please send a letter of interest letting us know why you would be an ideal candidate for the WEP internship to Erika@mfwwc.org