

# Summer Internship Position at Living Earth Farm

Located on 15 acres just west of the city limits of Eugene, the Living Earth Farm was started in July 2007 by the Blick Family. Inspired by the book *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, we aim to grow food in a truly sustainable way while also increasing our community's food security. We use no chemicals, little fuel, and solar energy. Our goals include raising happy animals, growing our own food, connecting people to their food, restoring native plants and wildlife habitat, and educating others. We raise chickens, lambs, and pigs for meat. We also grow fruit and vegetables using organic practices, and we have at least one bee hive. We have been Animal Welfare Approved and Certified Wildlife Friendly, and are currently a member of the Oregon Pasture Network. We run a Full Choice CSA and a Sunday Farmstand in Eugene. Learn more about our farm at [www.TheLivingEarthFarm.com](http://www.TheLivingEarthFarm.com)

## Internship Education

The summer term intern will receive education and training in composting, soil science and fertilization, shadehouse propagation, bed preparation and planting, irrigation, cultivation and weed management, pest management, harvesting, crop storage, orchard and berry management, beekeeping, lamb and ewe care, management intensive grazing, livestock guardian animals, tractor usage, and business management. The intern will accompany the farmer as she goes about her work, helping out with whatever she is doing, while she explains how, why, and when we do each task and answers any questions. While doing tasks that are long and tedious, the farmer and intern will discuss other aspects of farming such as marketing, customer service, legal issues, record keeping, certifications, employing workers, planning, scale, profitability, and the impacts of climate change. Other farm related subjects can be covered depending on intern's interests, with optional reading assignments and subsequent discussion. The expectation is that the help that the intern provides will be equal to the extra time the farmer spends educating the intern. The farmer has a MS degree in Ecology and has taught high school biology and also ecology classes for Lane Community College.

## Fringe Benefits

The intern will be able to take home some produce from the farm and will be qualified to serve as a work-trader or farm-sitter in the future. The intern can enjoy our peaceful country setting only 15 minutes from downtown Eugene and close to hiking, boating, biking, and birdwatching opportunities at Fern Ridge Wildlife Area and West Eugene Wetlands.

## Schedule

The intern can schedule times to come to the farm on any day of the week between 8 am and dark. The schedule need not be the same every week; working more when the weather is good is preferable, but we would like at least 4 hours/week during the summer term.

## Preferred Qualifications:

- Passion for small-scale, diverse, organic farming and local food security.
- Experience in organic gardening and/or outdoor work
- Experience with animals
- Energy and ability to do physically demanding work and work that can be monotonous at times.
- Trustworthy and reliable

**To apply:** Send an email detailing your interest, relevant experience, availability, and credit-hours desired, plus a resume and 3 references to Sharon Blick at [livingearthfarm@comcast.net](mailto:livingearthfarm@comcast.net). Best done in spring term. Applications due Monday of the first week of classes by midnight. Decision will be made by Tuesday night and Internship Description paper is due Wed at 4 pm of that week.