Job Description
The Iowa Arboretum and Gardens is an inspiring educational and recreational resource demonstrating the value and use of trees, shrubs, and other plants in the Iowa landscape. The Natural Resource Technician will help develop, manage, and grow the premier Iowa collection of trees, landscape plants, and native ecosystems. The intern will work with other staff and volunteers on grounds to help with the management of the Iowa Arboretum and Garden’s vast plant collection and natural resources. The Natural Resource Technician reports to the Curator of Collections and Grounds.

Program Goals
To gain experience in public/non-profit forestry including skills like:
• exposure to public relations and grounds maintenance to help manage Treehouse Village
• woodland and prairie management across 120 acres of open public access lands
• invasive species management including removal and treatment
• woodland canopy management including selective tree/understory removal and selection of permanent canopy

Duties and Responsibilities
• Grounds maintenance including hazardous plant removal, leaf blowing, mulch spreading, cleaning surfaces, handling trash, and answering visitor questions
• Assist senior staff with woodland/prairie management including preparation for controlled burns, removing invasive species, keeping trails systems clear, selecting woody plants for removal, selecting and protecting permanent trees
• Assist senior staff with surveying, cataloging, and mapping existing species
• Help develop strategies, protocols, and best management practices for natural resource management
• Assist with special events.

Education and Experience
• Much of the work involves walking, standing, lifting, crouching, pushing, pulling, and carrying items. Must be able to lift at least 50 pounds and work dexterously with hands and arms. The intern will be exposed to all weather conditions.
• Full-time student at a four-year or two-year degree program in horticulture, forestry, agronomy, natural resources, or related field
• Knowledge in forestry, environmental science, habitat restoration, and environmental ecology
• Computer experience including Microsoft Office and Google Products

Duration
28 hours a week for 40 weeks (April-October)

Compensation
Pay is hourly at a rate of $12-$15 per hour

Application instructions
Please send cover letter and resume to David McKinney, Curator of Collections and Grounds:
david@iowaarboretum.org