



## Midwest Groundcovers Summer Internship Program



Our goal is to provide a multi-faceted and meaningful opportunity for the student to experience the day-to-day operations in specified focused work areas. Internships can be customized to include the students' particular area of interest through experience or through special projects. The intern will have the opportunity to attend educational and social events such as trade shows, seminars, in-house training and our company picnic. The intern program features an initial goal setting plan at the start of the internship with a review of the program and goal achievement at the conclusion of the program.

Midwest Groundcovers offers the following summer internships.

### **Customer Service/Inside Sales/Marketing Intern – St. Charles, Illinois**

The intern will perform various activities and learn the inner workings of our Customer Service department and Inside Sales team. The intern will learn many facets of the department including assisting customers via phone, and order/quote entering. The intern will learn different aspects of marketing, including creating company promotional materials, assisting with imaging projects, learning and maintaining the plant database.

### **Inventory Intern – St. Charles, Illinois**

The intern will perform various activities to learn about the inventory department. The intern will learn how to maintain current, accurate location information in the inventory system as well as assisting in the collection, updating and maintenance of information related to quantity, lot number, lot status, plant size, and production notes. The intern will assist in labeling crops and locations, and will take plant and crop photos as requested.

### **Landscape Horticulturist Intern – St. Charles, Illinois**

The Landscape Horticulturist Intern will work with several seasoned horticulture and gardening experts to assist in areas such as planting installation, garden care, pruning, mulching, cultivating, weeding, label production & ID, planting design and general garden care for demonstration gardens at the St. Charles location. Additional skills to be touched upon will include Plant ID, weed ID, basics of planting design, This year's program will be connected with a new Cooperative Partnership between Midwest Groundcovers, Cantigny Gardens, Olbrich Botanic Garden and Lurie Garden at Millennium Park. These Cooperative Partners are working at developing a season long Apprenticeship program for the future with the intent to develop individuals with the skills to become a Plant System Specialist with a focus on maintaining and developing naturalistic style gardens such as in the style of Piet Oudolf or Roy Diblik. We will seek input from the intern on how to craft the future program and at least one event will be coordinated with these partners.

### **Sales Operations Intern – St. Charles, Illinois**

The sales operations internship allows students to get to know how orders are processed and delivered to customers and will spend time in the sales yard helping customers and processing orders. The intern will follow the order process by assembling and labeling an order, assist in loading customers in the pick up yard, learn about our internal distribution and shipping processes- even make a delivery with a driver!

### **Production Intern (Natives) – St. Charles, Illinois**

The Natural Garden Intern will experience working in our nursery operation dedicated to the production of local ecotype native plants, primarily in a finished plug size. Native Plant production experiences will include: seed collection, seedling and pluglet transplanting, native plant propagation, inventory, order preparation, seed flat sowing, native garden and display planting care, assisting with educational tours / events, natural area stewardship, exposure to production scheduling, insight into the sales side of our native plant operation and connection opportunities with native plant and seed collection partners and conservation partners. Native plant production techniques and marketing research can be incorporated in project type assignments if it is the desire of the intern and their program.

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### **Greenhouse Intern - Virgil, Illinois**

The intern will experience aspects of greenhouse production including shipping, planting, pruning, sticking cuttings and plant spacing. This intern will also learn about various mechanical aspects of the greenhouse including booms, EBB-FLO® Benches, fertilization, etc. Additional work experiences may include inventory assistance, record keeping, disease and pest identification and production scheduling.

### **Plant Health Intern - Virgil, Illinois**

Interested in a career in Plant Health, plant pathology, entomology and research& development? The internship program provides students with the opportunity to gain hands on experience inspecting plants for pests and diseases, conducting soil samples, monitoring soil fertility and assisting in research and development in the Plant Health Department

### **Production Intern – Virgil, Illinois**

The nursery production intern will experience pruning, potting, shipping, space management, fertilization, and different irrigation systems. The intern will gain knowledge of all the plants produced at the Virgil nursery and how we grow them. The intern will gain an understanding of managing a nursery, growing woody plants, and making plans to maximize efficiencies and stay within budgets.

### **Production Intern – Fennville, Michigan**

The intern will experience aspects of plant propagation including cutting, sticking, misting, and drenching. Additional work experiences may include inventory assistance, record keeping, cultural care, pruning, spacing, aiding in fertilization of plants, tracking degree days, disease and pest identification and production scheduling insight.

## Midwest Trading Summer Internship Program

### **Horticultural Soils Intern – Virgil, Illinois**

Over the course of this internship work will be done in the Midwest Trading lab running laboratory analysis and collecting data for Soil, Soilless media and their components. This includes Nursery, Greenhouse, Landscape, Green Roof, Bioswale, and other engineered blends. Additionally a research project will be conducted and presented at the conclusion of the internship. This internship involves some physically demanding work in a variety of environments and weather. This internship could be for the spring or summer.

### **Safety Intern – Virgil, Illinois**

This internship will involve work on various safety projects for Midwest Trading including the Safety Data Sheet program, attending safety meetings, performing safety training on various topics, conducting studies of facilities and equipment and developing plans for safety improvements.

## Growing Career Opportunities

*As our companies grow — Grow with us!*

For further details on job opportunities within the Midwest Companies e-mail us at:  
midwestjobs@midwestgroundcovers.com or call 847-742-1790 ext. 2017.

Visit our website at [www.midwestgroundcovers.com](http://www.midwestgroundcovers.com)