Student Internship at WCU's Gordon Natural Area

The Gordon Natural Area (GNA)—a 126-acre preserve on WCU's South Campus—is seeking students to fill a **GNA Student Internship Position** for the spring of 2024 and beyond. The successful applicant will work in the natural area with the GNA Stewardship Manager and other Student Interns and will be available to work both during the second half of the Spring Semester and during the summer.

Tasks Include:

- Tree-planting and maintenance, and other restoration activities
- Trail maintenance and erosion repair
- Invasive Species control
- Contributing to the GNA's website and social media presence
- Identifying species from wildlife camera videos
- Photographing the species of the GNA and associated tasks (e.g., species identification, photo labeling and processing)
- Entering data into the GNA databases
- Participating in biochar production and post-processing
- Participate in other tasks, as needed



Much of the work will be physical in nature, so applicants should be capable of lifting 50⁺ pounds and able to undertake physical labor for extended periods.



A portion of the work involves identifying plants and, to a lesser degree, insects, fungi, and other biotic groups. Although experience with plant identification is desirable, it is not required, so long as the applicant has a strong interest in learning about the local flora and fauna.

Interns will initially be hired for the spring and summer of 2024 with the possibility of renewal during the Fall Semester and beyond. The rate of pay is \$13/hour and the workload is 10 hours/week, and perhaps more if desired. The successful applicant will be able to work throughout the entire summer employment period (although arrangements can be made for vacation time).

<u>To apply</u>, create an application following the instructions below and email it to Dr. Nur Ritter, Gordon Natural Area Stewardship Manager (gna@wcupa.edu) by Monday, March 18th.

Application for Gordon Natural Area Student Internship Position Spring-Summer 2024

DUE: Monday, March 18, 2024.

Please prepare an application following the instructions below. To be considered for the position applications must include contact information for a professional reference. You must be a full-time student, enrolled in the Spring 2024 semester. The position will begin during the latter half of the Spring Semester.

Applications must be submitted via e-mail by 3/18/24 to Dr. Nur Ritter at: gna@wcupa.edu. Please put GORDON INTERN in the subject line. Include the following information:

- 1. Full Name
- 2. WCU email
- 3. Class (e.g., first year, sophomore, junior, senior) and expected graduation date (i.e., year and semester)
- 4. In a paragraph (150 words, or less), explain why you want to be an GNA Intern
- 5. List knowledge, skills, and work and course experiences related to the duties outlined in the position description (use a bulleted list)
- 6. Provide <u>contact information</u> for one reference (can be work-related or from a WCU professor)