

**Description:**

Heritage Museums and Gardens in historic Sandwich, MA on Cape Cod offers horticulture internships for the summer season. Our internships offer students the opportunity to improve their horticultural knowledge and skills by learning all aspects of maintaining a public garden. Interns work directly with horticulture staff and are trained in a variety of skills including planting, pruning, identification, and irrigation.

About Us:

Heritage Museums and Gardens is located on 100 acres with a rich history in horticulture. In 1921, Charles Dexter purchased the property and began his work hybridizing rhododendrons, a collection that is now mature and spectacular in bloom. In 1967, Josiah Lilly purchased the property and developed the former estate into a public museum and garden, preserving acres of native woodlands and the rhododendron collection. Our gardens also showcase an impressive and comprehensive hydrangea collection, a collection of over 1,000 varieties of daylilies, and more than a thousand varieties of trees, shrubs, and flowers.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Horticulture interns will be trained in and assist with planting, watering, weeding, mulching, fertilizing, pruning, dividing plants, plant identification, volunteer management, irrigation installation and repair, and other gardening duties as assigned.
- Participation in weekly plant identification walks. Interns are required to learn approximately 150 woody and herbaceous plants using our extensive and mature plant collections.
- Participation in informal lectures on subjects related to public garden operation and plant culture.
- Participation in field trips to select public and private gardens.
- Interns may be required to work at least one weekend during the summer.

Qualifications:

Applicants must have one or more years enrolled in a bachelor's or associate degree in horticulture or a related field such as landscape architecture, plant science, botany, etc. Internships require the ability to lift items less than 50 lbs., work outside in varied weather conditions, and occasionally work on stepladders. Prior horticultural experience is not required.

Preference will be given to candidates who:

- Demonstrate an enthusiastic interest in expanding their knowledge of horticulture and public garden management.
- Possess a high degree of motivation, attention to detail, and great communication and teamwork skills.

Additional Information:

Four horticulture internship positions are available for summer 2026. Our internships are paid, 12-week positions that ideally begin mid-May and end mid-August. Start and end dates are flexible. Interns are scheduled to work 40 hours per week. A small housing allowance is also granted for students *not from Cape Cod or southeastern Massachusetts*.

Application Instructions:

Please submit a resume and cover letter in a single PDF file by email to

Lillian Borbas lbobas@heritagemuseums.org
Internship Coordinator and Curator of Rhododendrons

The closing date for applications is January 31st, 2026. Follow ups with all applicants will be initiated after the closing date.