

**Description:**

Heritage Museums and Gardens in historic Sandwich, MA on Cape Cod is offering the Dexter Rhododendron Intern position. This internship will offer the opportunity to improve horticultural knowledge, skills, and aspects of maintaining a curated plant collection. The Rhododendron Intern will work directly with the Curator of Rhododendrons and be trained in how to care for the collection.

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:

- Be trained in and assist with planting, watering, pruning, mulching, irrigation installation, managing invasive plants, and other gardening duties as assigned in the Dexter Display Garden and throughout the gardens.
- Assist with plant documentation and labeling.
- Assist with maintaining our nursery: labeling, inventory, potting, watering.
- Assist and be trained in propagation of rhododendrons and other plants.
- 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 plant science, botany, etc., and have career aspirations in horticulture or other plant related fields. Internships require the ability to lift items less than 50 lbs., work outside in varied weather conditions, and occasionally work on stepladders.

Preference will be given to candidates who:

- Demonstrate maturity, self-motivation, willingness to learn.
- Have work experience in a garden center, park, greenhouse, nursery, or public garden.
- Have prior knowledge of some plant identification or have taken a college level ID course.

Additional Information:

One rhododendron internship position is available for summer 2026, which is separate from our four horticulture internship positions. Our internships are paid, 12-week positions that 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 lborb@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.