



2024 MEVO Spring Farm Crew Internship Description

[MEVO \(Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization, Inc.\)](#)

Overview: Our internship is designed for students attending college, or recently graduated, who want to experience environmentalism and social change through a regenerative agricultural immersion with a focus on community education and outreach. Interns participating in this program will learn critical skills regarding starting a farm for the season, greenhouse management practices, and basic machine and hand tool operation. They will also acquire skills in volunteer management, community education, and public speaking. We are looking for hardworking, individuals with an interest in grassroots environmental work. No previous experience in farming or community education work is required. This internship is a beneficial pairing to any environmental, science-based, sociology, anthropology, or humanities class or course of study. However, we encourage students of all majors to apply. Interns will leave the internship with a sound understanding of the social and environmental implications of regenerative agriculture and will be equipped with the skills to act on what they've learned.

Spring Farm Crew Details

Title: Farm Crew Intern

Start Date: Sunday, March 10th

End Date: Sunday, May 11th

Training: Sunday, March 10th: 9-5 pm (in person) and Tuesday, March 12th: 7:00-8:30 pm (online)

Optional Trip: Friday March 15th-Sunday March 17. We will be heading to our friends at [Merck Forest and Farmland](#) in Rupert Vermont to learn about and help out with their maple sugaring for the year! We will be staying in a cozy cabin right by their sap house. Envision a beautiful snowy farm with a vast lookout on the green mountains while helping process Vermont maple syrup in the toasty sap house! This trip is optional, but we think you're going to want to go!

Days for the Internship: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (*Pick two days you can commit to fully*). Based on your availability, location, and interest we will discuss what locations are best for you. You may spend your whole internship at the farms, the Turner Greenhouse, or a hybrid of both.

Internship Locations:

- Turner Greenhouse at [Van Vleck and House and Gardens](#) (21 Van Vleck Street, Montclair). Our Field and Volunteer Manager Jacob Morenberg will be in the greenhouse on Mondays and Thursdays
- Fresh Roots (200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah) and Lovewell Farm (40 Peterson Place, Mahwah): Our Farm Manager Jess will be on the farm all available days of the internship.

Work Hours: 9 am – 5 pm

Pay: \$500 stipend

Work

You will work closely with a group of staff, volunteers, and fellow interns to help us run our springtime farms, greenhouses, and educational and volunteer programs.

- Maintaining the [Fresh Roots Farm](#), a two-acre regenerative farm in the Campgaw Mountain Reservation, and [Lovewell Farm](#). Both farms are in Mahwah, NJ. Farm work will include small construction projects around the farm, starting seedlings in our greenhouse, preparing seed beds, planting, weeding and cultivating, managing compost piles, pest management, and more. Our crew will manage the day-to-day farm tasks, work with community volunteers and volunteer groups, and teach community education programs.
- Managing seedlings and plants starts at the [Van Vleck Greenhouse](#) in Montclair. Here, we will be starting, tending to, and up-potting over 50 different plant varieties for our annual plant sale, as well as donating to organizations that do not have the proper means to start their crops. At times, there will be some administrative work we will complete together. This could include preparing the plant sale website and communicating with groups who will receive donations from us. We are sharing the greenhouse with another amazing organization, [Montclair Community Farms](#).
- Helping us manage and run volunteer and educational groups. Spring is our busiest season for volunteering and programming. We work with corporate, school, and service groups weekly. We'll need your help leading groups through work projects and welcoming them to the farms!

- Assisting in other areas of MEVO's programming. This could include attending and helping to run a Stag Hill cleanup, assisting in our elementary educational programs, and more. *If you're interested in administrative work, we are looking for help with social media, videography, and photography.*

Training & Education

Interns will be required to participate in a day of environmental training on **Sunday, March 11th**, **and an evening online session on Tuesday, March 13th**. You will also receive intensive on-the-job training during the work season. *Training is subject to change based on the interns' availability after hiring is complete.*

Responsibilities

1. **Physical volunteering and getting dirty:** MEVO's volunteer work is tiring and you need to be in good physical shape and be willing to work hard. You will spend A LOT of your time outdoors on the farm in the heat and mud, rain or shine!
2. **Public speaking and making decisions:** We want you to end your internship with the ability to feel comfortable leading volunteers and speaking to groups. This means that you will speak in front of groups of people of all ages and be asked to make difficult decisions, at times with little guidance.
3. **Teaching and Volunteer Management:** Every Farm Crew member will work with school groups, corporate groups, and more to teach about sustainability and growing food. You will have to be willing to teach and have patience with your students. Our teaching methods include a mix of hands-on work and projects mixed with on-the-go lecturing around our farms.
4. **Willingness to get the job done:** Some days we work late to finish the task at hand or have to get to the farm early to get our projects accomplished Ex. Occasionally, we may ask you to show up at 8:30 am or work with us until 5:30 pm.

Requirements

1. **Mode of Transportation:** To get to the Van Vleck Greenhouse and our farms in Mahwah
2. **Attendance:** You are required to be at every day of our internship.
3. **Training:** You must be able to attend training.

A Glimpse of MEVO

MEVO is an environmental not-for-profit organization based in Northern New Jersey. We are led entirely by young people: college and graduate students as well as young spirited adults. MEVO works throughout the region on a variety of volunteer environmental projects ranging from trash clean-ups to organic farming, building low-impact hiking trails, and teaching people about local beekeeping. Since MEVO was founded in June 2008, the organization has mobilized and engaged over 8,000 volunteers contributing over 70,000 hours of volunteer work to Northern New Jersey and lower New York state communities. MEVO is well known for its work in partnership with the Ramapough Lunaape Nation with whom they have collectively led a clean-up effort for the removal of over 650,000 lbs of pollution and trash. This trash has been and continues to be illegally dumped in the forests surrounding the homes of the residents living in the Stag Hill community in Mahwah, New Jersey. In addition, MEVO builds and manages sustainable farms and gardens that provide educational programs about the importance of sustainably grown foods and ways to address our environmental impact.

How to Apply

[Fill out this application](#) and upload your resume and cover letter. If you would like to introduce yourself before submitting your information or if you want to ask any questions, you may also contact Violet by phone at 201-316-4888 or email violet@mevo.org.

*Interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis starting in mid-January.