## Natural Resources Conservation Service

## NRCS Earth Team Intern USDA NRCS



## Regional Internship Program: Summer 2024 Fink Career Development Program

<u>Organization Overview:</u> For more than 80 years, we have helped people make investments in their operations and local communities to keep working lands working, boost rural economies, increase the competitiveness of American agriculture, and improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and habitat. As the USDA's primary private lands conservation agency, we generate, manage, and share the data, technology, and standards that enable partners and policymakers to make decisions informed by objective, reliable science.

Our Mission: We deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world.

Our Vision: A world of clean and abundant water, healthy soils, resilient landscapes, and thriving agricultural communities through voluntary conservation.

Internship Description: Intern will work on the State Resource Conservationist (SRC) staff, to gain experience on a multi-disciplinary staff, that support field staff across the state. Training and experience will be gained in conservation planning, to benefit the soil, water, air, plants, and animals that result in productive lands and healthy ecosystems. This position is designed to provide a career-oriented introduction to the background, philosophy, concepts, and scope of the NRCS mission and a practical understanding of the planning process and conservation practice standards. The SRC staff is diverse and will provide the opportunity to gain experience from the following discipline leads: agronomist, grazing and feed management specialist, forester, archaeologist, GIS specialist, biologist and environmental compliance specialist.

A project (to be decided), will be assigned to take to completion. The intern will assist the state discipline leads and gain the necessary skills, training, and experience in the NRCS nine-step planning process and technology transfer.

<u>Qualifications:</u> Passion for learning about conservation and farming in NY; Strong interpersonal and writing Communication skills; Transportation to get to the office; Ability to follow through independently on assigned tasks; Experience with Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS Pro) would be beneficial; Flexibility with tasks based on pressing needs and emerging issues; Good attitude to contribute to the work of a mission-driven organization.

## **Additional Internship Information:**

- Internship period: 10 weeks over summer 2024; start day flexible
- Approximate hours per week: 30-35 (330 hours total)
- Internship location: NRCS State Office, 441 S. Salina Street, Suite 354 Syracuse, NY 13210
- As a non-profit/government organization, this internship stipend is completely funded through the ESF Career Development Program; the hourly wage for this position is \$15 per hour (\$5,000 total stipend).

Interested in applying? Regional Internship Program Application