

Permaculture Internship – 2017

A collaboration between [Songaia](#) and [21 Acres](#)

Songaia and 21 Acres are offering a summer internship for students interested in environmental science, sustainability and other related study programs.

Songaia has hosted a rich, educational Summer Permaculture Garden Intern Program since 2012. More than 24 interns have spent from 6 weeks to 6 months working in our permaculture garden and food forests, and participating in our community food program that offers meals 5 times a week. Many have written [blogs](#) on our website telling of their experiences.

Our interns have gone on to leadership roles in the environmental movement, taken leadership roles in the Northwest Permaculture community and joined the Peace Corp. Many have changed their fields of study to take on degrees in environmental science and sustainability.

In 2017 we are partnering with [21 Acres](#), a center for sustainable living in Woodinville, to expand and enrich the summer internship program. Students will have the opportunity to benefit from 21 Acres' host of sustainability educators and to collaborate on permaculture demonstration projects that intrigue and educate the public.

Songaia is a co-housing community in Bothell Washington. First imagined over 25 years ago, today, Songaia Cohousing ([Songaia.com](#)) is a strong, established community of 38 people in 13 homes on 10.6 acres. We live in modest homes with abundant land, permaculture garden and food forests, and common facilities near Seattle. Students will interact with community members and participate in community events and projects.

Available Intern Positions:

- There are a total of 10 spaces available in the summer internship (4 residential and 6 local. Local interns would provide their own lodging.)
- Interns must commit to a minimum of 2 months (200 hours) during the program with preference given to those who can stay longer.
- The program begins on the 15th of April and concludes on the 15th of October.

Day to day schedule:

- Three days a week in the *Songaia* garden, working in the food forest, or other landscaping projects such as huglekultur development and new plantings. Work is supervised by Songaia's Garden Manager and interns join the community's group of garden volunteers. There will be opportunities for interns to design and implement permaculture projects that enhance the community's overall goals.
- Two days a week at *21 Acres* under the supervision of the grounds maintenance staff. Projects will include food forest maintenance, building a demonstration backyard permaculture site, and individual projects. Interns will be given leadership tasks leading volunteer work parties.
- Permaculture curriculum will be taught one day a week and includes permaculture

seminars, educational workshops such as pruning fruit trees, and a rich variety of field trips to other permaculture farms/installations in the area, allowing interns to benefit from exposure to a wide variety of permaculture applications.

- One day a week will remain unscheduled.
- Interns still in the program during the annual Northwest Permaculture Convergence will be given an opportunity to volunteer to help with and attend the convergence.

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