

Internship Description

GIS Development and Easement Monitoring System

Green Mountain Club

Summer 2017

Organization Overview:

The Green Mountain Club (GMC), founded in 1910, is a non-profit organization that is the protector and maintainer of the Long Trail, the nation's oldest long-distance hiking trail. The mission of the GMC is to make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people by protecting and maintaining the Long Trail System and fostering, through education, the stewardship of Vermont's hiking trails and mountains.

Since 1986, the GMC has conserved over 25,000 acres to permanently create a protected corridor for the Long Trail System—500 miles of hiking trails and 70 overnight shelters along the Green Mountains from Massachusetts to Canada. The Stewardship Program is charged with managing GMC lands and easements as well as overseeing 10,000 acres of Appalachian Trail Corridor Lands with the goal of protecting the recreational and natural resources of the trail corridor. The program's field work is largely done by Volunteer Corridor Monitors who maintain the boundaries and monitor the protected lands for encroachments.

More information on the GMC can be found at: <https://www.greenmountainclub.org/>

Internship Overview:

The goal of this internship is to help the GMC build their GIS capacity, improve the accuracy and quality of their conserved lands data, and to create a boundary monitoring system for use by GMC staff and volunteer corridor monitors.

Specifically, the intern will:

- Help the GMC review their conserved lands data to resolve accuracy issues and enter survey data into shapefiles.
- Assist the Corridor Monitoring Program with field work and collect GIS boundary data.
- Compile additional GIS data from existing sources (VCGI, Forest Service, etc) that might be of use to the GMC for monitoring and planning purposes.
- Work with the GMC staff and corridor monitors to develop an easement monitoring database and field collection system.
- Field test the easement monitoring system and make improvements as necessary.
- Establish procedures and protocols for using the new easement monitoring system.
- Create instructions (written and possibly videos) for using the field monitoring system and train GMC staff as necessary on its use.

Qualifications

- Completion of Geography 120 (Fundamentals of GIS).

- Upper level geography course (300 level) desirable but not required.
- Must be able to work independently and as a team member.
- Must have an interest in learning more about GIS, GPS and recreational mapping.
- Some experience with programming may be helpful but not required
- Understanding of Vermont's natural communities/natural history
- Ability to perform fieldwork in off-trail, remote locations
- Basic map and compass skills
- Attention to detail

The intern will have access to the Middlebury College Geography Department computer labs and Bill Hegman, the Middlebury College Geography Department GIS Specialist, will provide the primary technical support during the summer. Travel to and work at the GMC office in Waterbury will be necessary for several days a week.

Duration and Dates

The intern will be expected to be available 30-35 hours/week for 10 weeks. Starting and ending dates are flexible but generally go from early June to Mid August.

Compensation

A stipend of \$3500 is available. Some funds for travel/mileage reimbursement are also available.

Deadline for Application

Please submit a cover letter and resume by March 31th to:

Bill Hegman, GIS Specialist
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Middlebury College
(802) 443-5016
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