



Position Announcement MSU Forest Ecology Student Lab Assistant

Position description: This is a great opportunity to learn about research in forest ecology! Searching for an undergraduate student with a strong work ethic and passion for forest ecology. The position includes field and laboratory work. For more information about the MSU Forest Ecology lab, please visit: <https://msu.edu/~kobe/index.html>

Characteristic Duties/Responsibilities:

- Cleaning and processing long-term datasets concerning regeneration in red pine plantations of northern-lower Michigan, tree dynamics in the Manistee National Forest, and patterns in seedling establishment at La Selva Biological Station in Costa Rica.
- Assist with experiments and laboratory analysis. This includes monitoring interactions between seedlings and soil pathogens near Alma College, testing nutrient limitations to tree growth in northwest lower Michigan and maintaining greenhouse experiments.
- Forest monitoring fieldwork. Assistant will spend time in forests of northern-lower Michigan monitoring seedling establishment, survival and growth. The position will also involve mapping mature trees and collecting soil samples.

Requirements:

- Some experience in forestry, ecology, biology or related field
- Comfort with woody plant identification, forest measurements and field conditions
- Familiarity with Microsoft Excel for data entry
- Must be a student at Michigan State University, enrolled in the Spring and Fall 2019 semesters.

Working Conditions: The position will be lab- and field-based. Lab conditions could involve exposure to dust, allergens, soil, and skin/eye irritants. Field conditions may include carrying a less than 30-pound pack and exposure to inclement (but not dangerous) weather, hot/humid weather, uneven terrain, insects and allergens.

Location: The position is based at the MSU Natural Resources building. Summer work may require overnight to extended-stay trips in the Manistee National Forest, where housing is provided. Remaining work will occur in the East Lansing area where housing is not provided. International travel will not be required.

Compensation and Dates: Starting wage is \$11.50/hour for up to 40 hours per week during summer. Position will start in mid-May 2019. Continuation into Fall semester is possible and would be limited to 29 hours per week once classes are again in session.

To Apply: Email: 1) a letter of interest detailing qualifications for the position and the dates/times of availability, 2) resume/CV with list of relevant coursework or experiences, and 3) contact information for two references. Email: **MSU Forest Ecology Research Specialist Andy Vander Yacht: vandery1@msu.edu**. Applicants may also apply through Handshake by searching for position #2442411.

Deadline: Applications will be considered until April 30, 2019, or until the position has been filled. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Feel free to stop by Natural Resources Room 106 and speak with Andy Vander Yacht for more details.

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) at Michigan State University (MSU) is committed to achieving excellence by creating and sustaining an accessible and inclusive culture that values cultural and academic diversity. MSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The CANR is particularly interested in candidates of all backgrounds who are committed to the principle that academic excellence is achieved through open access and proactive inclusion.