

Summer Internship Program: Bennett's Creek Nursery Smithfield, Virginia

Job Summary:

An 8-week, paid, summer internship for students in accredited horticulture related programs. An internship at Bennett's Creek encompasses our entire operation. Qualified candidates will spend time learning about propagation, production, shipping, IPM, pruning, water management, and landscape distribution center operations. Candidates will rotate through the various operation centers, or a program can be tailored to suit student's desire.

Responsibilities in the assigned area:

- Learn about different growing environments
- Learn about proper soil moisture and irrigation settings
- Learn the IPM program and to scout for pests and diseases
- Maintain scouting reports and submit findings to IPM personnel
- Learn the Weed Control program and herbicide needs
- Learn about fertility and check fertility using the pour-through method and maintain records
- Inventory counts and corrections
- Learn to regularly review inventory reports and coordinate with the Inventory Controller and sales team when inventory is ready for market or when a ready status should be changed
- Learn pruning methods and technique
- Learn potting methods
- Learn various equipment, tractors, forklift, loader
- Maintain growing records of all aspects of production including potting dates, spacing, fertilizing, pruning, weeding, herbicide, diseases, pests, spray applications, winter protection, and crop turns
- Maintain assigned equipment and tools including pruners, electronic meters, vehicles, tractors, computer or tablet, etc.
- Learn propagation methods

Qualifications/Experience:

- Enrolled in a horticulture program
- Work hours will be Monday – Friday 7:45am-4:45pm.
- Candidates should be prepared to work in various weather situations, hot/cold/rain.
- Qualified candidates will be able to understand and carry out instructions.
- Must be able to lift 50 pounds and withstand repetitive motions.
- Basic understanding of correct horticultural practices and experience in all aspects of nursery maintenance (planting, weed identification and control,

cultural requirements of herbaceous and woody plants and plant identification knowledge)

- Experience with most horticultural tools and machinery is required.

Compensation: \$16.00 per hour from Monday June 5, 2023 – July 28, 2023

How to apply:

Please send a cover letter and a current resume to: Chris Dowdy, Vice President of Production, chris.dowdy@bcnursery.com

About Bennett's Creek Nursery

We are a well-established wholesale grower located in beautiful Smithfield, Va. We grow quality ornamental trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals.

Our Mission: "Be our customers' number one resource for beautifying the outdoors"

Vision: Continuous improvement of people, products, and processes"

We value: Tidiness, Organization, Friendliness, Integrity, Quality, Encouragement, Communication, Education, Innovation, and Community.

The location

Smithfield, VA is most famous for the curing and production of Smithfield Hams. We are part of the Coastal Virginia area. Off hours opportunities include Busch Gardens and Water Country USA theme parks, Colonial Williamsburg, historic Jamestown, and the Virginia Beach Ocean Front resort area. Richmond, VA and Outer Banks, NC are about 1.5-hours travel time.

Housing is available on request.