Refugia Ltd is an ecological landscape design/build and stewardship firm, with our design office located in Narberth, PA. Since 2015, Refugia has been offering distinctive native landscape design for both residential and commercial green spaces throughout the Greater Philadelphia Area and Jersey Shore. Annual exhibitors and award-winners at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Philadelphia Flower Show, Refugia is known for an immersive, naturalistic design aesthetic and meadow expertise at projects ranging in size from city yards to suburban estates. Ground-breaking initiatives include mapping the impact of our 120+ suburban native habitats via our Ecological Greenway Network to promote connectivity for wildlife and restore ecosystem function to neighborhoods.

Refugia Summer Internship Program 2022

This summer, Refugia is offering two exciting opportunities for individuals seeking to immerse themselves in real-world, sustainable landscape design/stewardship. We are offering:

- **Landscape Design + Stewardship Track;** Open to all current or recent graduates of BLA, BSLA or MLA program seeking to deepen their knowledge of native plants of the mid-atlantic region, and their cultural requirements with immersive application in-the-field. Each week, candidates will spend 3 days shadowing the design team at various phases of the design process including site analysis, plant layout, drone base mapping and proposal development and 2 days working on-site with our Field Team.

- **Stewardship/Build Track;** Open to individuals with an academic background in horticulture, forestry, ecology, arboriculture, landscape design, landscape construction, construction management or related field, AND/OR minimum of 2 years practical gardening experience. Candidates will work as part of our Field Team at a diversity of properties ranging from small city yards to larger estates, providing a high level of garden maintenance alongside site prep and design/build installation. Candidates will also be provided weekly opportunities to rotate and interact with the design and nursery team to assist with drone base mapping and nursery maintenance/irrigation; alongside the opportunity to assist in the PHS Flower Show exhibit June 2022 at FDR Park.

**Overall Objectives**

- Provide hands-on experience and opportunities to learn about ecological landscape design/build from a design or stewardship perspective.
- Deepen native plant knowledge and awareness of sustainable materials and best practices.
- Grow and develop in a supportive, collaborative environment with real world experience and problem solving.
- Offer mentorship and networking opportunities within a fast-growing, innovative ecological design/build firm.
Requirements

- Ability to work independently and as part of the team
- Punctual, organized, motivated and diligent
- Own car preferred
- Demonstrates a commitment to working in ecological landscape design/stewardship

Landscape Design Track

- Excellent drawing skills and familiarity with design software (AutoCAD, SketchUp, Adobe Creative Suite, or similar)
- Interest in materials, construction details and current rules, regulations and quality standards
- Strong imagination and visual awareness with ability to think and create in three dimensions

Stewardship Track

- Physically comfortable working hands-on indoors and outdoors in all weather
- Strong knowledge of native plants and ecosystems preferred
- A proficiency with plants and gardening tasks
- Scheduling flexibility and willingness to travel as needed with expectation
- Availability Mon-Fri with expectation for 40 hours+ during Flower Show/peak season

Compensation

Internship pay is $15 per hour for a 40 hour work week Mon-Fri May-August. Earlier start date available. Overtime (time and a half) over 40 hours.

We are unable to provide housing, interns should be located within commuting distance of our Rock Hill Road, Bala Cynwyd PA location for duration.

Application via email to admin@refugiadesign.com with subject heading ‘Intern 2022’ including:

- Cover letter expressing your interests and future goals, which track you are interested in, your expectations for the internship and the dates you are available.
- Resume
- Contact details for 3 references

Application deadline February 1st 2022. An online interview is required followed by an in-person day with the team. We strongly encourage applicants from all backgrounds.