Outreach Intern

Title: Environmental Communications Intern

Supervisor: Karen Parker, Communications & Outreach Director, karenparker@whatcomlandtrust.org (360) 650-9470

Location: Our office is located downtown at 412 North Commercial Street, Bellingham.

Stipend: Quarter Dependent

Timeframe: Flexible

Application: Please email cover letter, writing sample, and resume to karenparker@whatcomlandtrust.org Position open until filled.

SUMMARY:

Whatcom Land Trust is local, nationally-accredited nonprofit land conservation organization whose mission is to preserve and protect wildlife habitat, scenic, agricultural and open space lands in Whatcom County for future generations by securing interest in land, promoting land stewardship and engaging our community. We are seeking a volunteer to help share our story as an communications intern who will help research, write, contact and contribute to our current and future partnerships, assist with writing focused on sharing the Land Trust mission, promote Whatcom Land Trust events, and be an integral team member in implementing Whatcom Land Trust’s strategic outreach plan.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

This internship is a cross-functional opportunity, including projects such as: writing and proofing articles and press releases, event planning such as fairs and tabling, reaching out to current and potential partnerships, and supporting any other Community Outreach efforts as needed including fundraisers and campaigns.

• Support Whatcom Land Trust’s communications by writing press releases and pitching articles to local media.
• Learn fundamentals of writing articles for conservation including: presentation skills, content development, materials preparation.
• Learn strategies for outreach as they relate to our target audiences and a strategic communications plan.
• Support for our outreach through fundraising efforts.
• Learn fundamentals of event planning: logistics, marketing, on-side coordination, post-event outreach.
• Provide support to our Communications team
• Engagement with peers, Sr. Leaders, and Executive Leaders through meetings and project work.
Qualifications:

- Communications, Environmental Studies, and Journalism degrees preferred, others considered.
- Good at working with a team, receiving input and acting on it.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Reliable and deadline oriented.
- Able to commit to a 10 hours a week per quarter with 5 of those hours in our office.
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5+. required

Whatcom Land Trust Statement:

Whatcom Land Trust is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other protected status. Interns bring a welcome perspective to our organization. An internship at Whatcom Land Trust empowers you to confidently move forward in your career path, having a valued voice in our organization.

About Whatcom Land Trust

Whatcom Land Trust, a 501c3 nonprofit corporation, was founded in 1984 to protect natural and agricultural lands in a rapidly developing county. Since then, Whatcom Land Trust has protected more than 20,000 acres through a combination of land trust owned properties, conservation easements, and facilitated transfers and exchanges.

Whatcom Land Trust conserves Whatcom’s natural heritage – its fish and wildlife habitat, marine and freshwater shorelines, parklands for recreation, forests, farmlands, scenic and culturally significant areas. The Trust accomplishes this in three general ways:

- Legal securement of land and conservation easements throughout Whatcom County
- Stewarding and restoring to health the 80-plus land trust owned reserves (approximately 4,000 acres) and 78 conservation easements (6,500 acres) that the land trust holds
- Engaging people in conservation actions – 400 volunteers contribute more than 1,500 hours of field and organizational work annually, helping Whatcom Land Trust manage its lands, advocating for public funding for parks and habitat and strong public policies to conserve Whatcom’s natural heritage.

What is a Land Trust?

Land trusts are private, independent, entrepreneurial nonprofit, non-governmental organizations that have joined with landowners to protect private land in the United States. There are over 1,600 land trusts operating across the U.S. protecting more than 9 million acres of farmland, wetlands, ranches, forests, watersheds, and river corridors. There are about two dozen land trusts in Washington. Land trusts all have some attributes in common, but each land trust has its own unique working area, priorities, missions and goals.