

2021-22 Big Sky Herbs Internships

Dear Students,

An internship is available with Big Sky Herbs, a local sustainable herb grower. The half-acre of 100 medicinal tea herbs and 40 culinary herbs is located in the West Missoula Valley. Interns are needed year-round to work and expand this small sustainable business venture, where both e-commerce and sustainable growing practices for permaculture goals are involved.

Fall Semester would include part or all months of August through December where interns would be helping to harvest, winterize, dry, process, and package herbs for Saturday Market and Winter sales.

Learning objectives for fall semester include:

1. Learn to identify over 140 herb plants at maturity here in Missoula, Montana
2. See how to harvest, bunch and dry herbs naturally.
3. Experience preparing plants for winter, installing and transplanting, including Volunteer Learning Sessions.
4. See how and be a part of getting organic home-grown herbs from the garden to the table, including:
 - a) Making whole and hand crushed herb products using natural methods
 - b) Packaging, displaying and marketing herb products for retail
 - c) Working side by side setting up, selling and tearing down market and fair booths.

Spring semester would include part or all months of January through May where interns would be helping to do research for classes, business and the U-Pick spring gardening, as well as packaging herbs for on-line sales, Saturday markets.

Learning objectives for the spring semester would include:

1. Learning by assisting in presentations on herbs around the Missoula area
2. Learn to and prepare for the summer U-Pick and Saturday market sales.
 - a) Seeding and tending the indoor starting garden and greenhouse.
 - b) Weeding, landscaping and planting the U-Pick garden areas, including April Volunteer Learning Sessions.
 - c) Working winter markets and the first few Saturday markets by helping with setup, sales and teardown

Summer semester includes the months of June through August for students where interns would help with gardening, operating the U-Pick Garden and Saturday Market.

Learning objectives for the summer semester would include:

1. Maintaining the U Pick garden/yard area
2. Participate in promoting the U-Picks, selling herbs at the Saturday Market
3. Assist and teach during the U-Pick events
4. Harvest and help with drying, making culinary and wellness tea products

Year-round learning and credit is available through helping with this business as well as an opportunity for employment as the business gets going.

Please send an e-mail to lori@bigskyherbs.com that includes answers to question on the volunteer interns page at bigskyherbs.com and how many hours you would like to put in to gain credits. The hours available are varied according to my part-time job away from home.

