

Organic Blueberry Internship
Field Crew

Maine Coast Heritage Trust
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Position: Crew for organic blueberry fields
Location: Bog Brook Cove Preserve, Trescott and Cutler, Washington County
Pay: \$12/hour for 7 weeks at an average of 25 hours per week
Time frame: Early June to late July
Housing: May be available on the preserve

A 5-person crew is needed for the summer of 2012 caring for 80 acres of commercial blueberry land on a Maine Coast Heritage Trust preserve in coastal Washington County. The blueberries are now in their 2nd year of the 3-year transition to organic management certification.

The position is for an *average* of 25 hours per week for 7 weeks, allowing for the time the crew will be unable to work in the field due to inclement weather. The crew will be compensated with pay of \$12 per hour. Responsibilities include weeding, spreading mulch, working with a research coordinator on study plots for different weeding strategies and other research components. A propane powered torch used for weed and insect management is one of the tools used. A crew supervisor will be an active member of the work team.

The supervisor and crew will work closely with Melissa Lee, Regional Steward, as well as a research coordinator. The successful candidates must be independently motivated, able to perform hard work, and must be willing to work outdoors in a wide variety of conditions. Fondness of bugs a plus! The crew members will also have to be resourceful and be able to problem –solve. Ability to work well in a team is essential.

This position will run from early June to late July.

The work location is remote and in the midst of a spectacular 1600-acre Maine Coast Heritage Trust Preserve in coastal Washington County along the “bold coast”. This is adjacent to 13,000 acres of state conservation land, making this the largest contiguous block of coastal conservation land in the state other than Acadia National Park. Views of the ocean, and ocean breezes are common on the blueberry fields. Hiking trails are plentiful and nearby. An ocean-front rustic cabin (water, gas stove and refrigerator, no power other than a generator for hot water) located on the preserve may be available for housing. There is no phone and cell phone reception is spotty.