**Community Gardens and Earth Day Cleanups Intern with UGROW**

The Regional Environmental Council is a grassroots environmental and food justice organization that has been working in Worcester since 1971. The UGROW (Urban Garden Resources of Worcester) program is a grassroots, citywide network of community gardens. UGROW is founded on the belief that together we can help create community food security by growing food in our own neighborhoods. The network includes 45 community gardens and 25 school gardens throughout the city of Worcester.

The REC Earth Day Cleanups are a city-wide tradition for the past 30 years in which over 1,000 community members come together to clean up trash form parks, streets and other public spaces. The REC Earth Day team conducts volunteer outreach, coordinates all the logistics and provides necessary materials to volunteers. We also use this day as an opportunity to kick off the gardening season and build connections between neighbors and gardeners.

This position is a good fit for someone looking to develop/expand their skills in agriculture as well as gain experience working in the non-profit sector.

Tasks for the Earth Day Cleanups will include: volunteer outreach, updating and maintaining volunteer sign-up systems, placing volunteers at cleanup sites and event planning and logistics. Tasks related to the Community Gardens will include: supporting the gardens with cleanups, physical infrastructure, seedling distribution, and administrative support with entering survey information, and updating garden database.

Candidates must commit to a minimum of 6 to 10 hours per week.

All internships are unpaid but provide invaluable insight into: urban agriculture, food justice, environmental justice, non-profit management, and customer service. Interns will learn about food justice work in Worcester by working in low-income, food-insecure neighborhoods. Interns are an integral part to the success of the REC’s Earth Day Cleanups and UGROW programs. If available through your educational institution, the REC is willing to help interns obtain course credit for their work with us.

Skills Needed

* Strong communication skills
* Ability to lift 50 pounds and enthusiasm for working outdoors
* Ability to work independently and in a team
* Reliable transportation required, access to a vehicle is a plus
* Familiarity with gardening, food justice issues, and experience working with volunteers and diverse populations are a plus

To be considered for this position, please send a resume and cover letter to Pat Barnosky at UGROW@recworcester.org. Positions will be filled on a rolling basis with the internship and can start ASAP