



1137 N Dodge Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85716
www.watershedmg.org

Job Announcement: Sustainable Built Environments Apprentice

About the Organization

At Watershed Management Group (WMG), we envision a world where the relationship between the Sonoran Desert and its people creates prosperity for all. This includes all people, plants, animals, land, and waters of the United States, Mexico, and Native American nations found in the Sonoran Desert. Our mission is to develop and implement community-based solutions to ensure the long-term prosperity of people and health of the environment. We provide people with the knowledge, skills, and resources for sustainable livelihoods.

At the core of our work is the value and practice of diversity, equity, and inclusion with the goal of advancing care for people and the environment. In recruiting for our team, we welcome the unique contributions that you can bring in terms of education, opinions, culture, ethnicity, race, sex, gender identity and expression, nation of origin, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation and beliefs.

Job Title: Sustainable Built Environments Apprentice

Supervisor: Lisa Shipek, Executive Director

Position Start Date and End Date: August 2024 – December 2024. (Possible extension into Spring 2025).

Hours: Part time, 10 - 15 hours per week; 2-3 days per week Monday – Friday with occasional evening and weekend hours. Must be available to work on Fridays.

Location: Tucson, AZ

Pay: \$20/hour

Benefits: Sick leave

Job Description: The Living Lab is a community hub and leading demonstration site of watershed resilience in mid-town Tucson. The Living Lab features water harvesting, native habitat, food forests, passive solar energy, and monitoring systems... culminating in a campus supported entirely by rainwater! The Apprentice will be part of the Living Lab projects team, working with a variety of staff, docents, and other volunteers at WMG, to care for and improve the sustainable desert living systems.

The ideal candidate will be passionate about WMG's mission; enjoy working outdoors and learning new water harvesting, native gardening, and sustainable systems caretaking skills; and participate in WMG's efforts to engage a diverse community at the Living Lab.

The Apprentice will participate in weekly onboarding and development activities with a cohort of other apprentices, interns, and docents. Training often occurs on Friday afternoons, 3-5pm.

Learn, Participate, and Master These Routine Duties & Responsibilities

- Water harvesting systems
 - Care for rain gardens including fixing any erosion issues, adjusting rock work, removing invasive plants, and pruning
 - Ensure greywater systems are properly functioning
 - Build Laundry to Landscape greywater kits
 - Help with care of rainwater harvesting tanks and potable filtration system
- Veggie gardens, food forests, and native edible plants
 - Manage nutrients, weeding, watering, pruning, planting, and harvesting
 - Grow and harvest seasonal, desert adapted veggies, herbs, and fruits
 - Harvest and process native edible plants for education and outreach purposes
- Composting systems
 - Participate in maintenance on composting toilet systems, ensuring usable compost for garden projects
 - Build composting toilet kits
 - Upkeep and utilize kitchen compost system for gardens
- Animals
 - Care for chickens, including routine needs and seasonal improvements to habitat
 - Participate in routine care for desert tortoise as well as help with any habitat upgrades
- Zero waste
 - Assess WMG's zero waste system and make suggestions for improvement
 - Action improvements with staff and volunteers
- Special projects
 - Help plan and implement a native plant sensory garden designed for kids
 - Work with staff on system upgrades and new systems, including upgrading gardens, water harvesting, irrigation and composting toilet systems.
 - Work on off-site projects as interest and time allows
 - Assist with outreach and educational events as interest and time allows

Job Requirements

- Interest and support of WMG's mission and vision
- Strong communication skills, specifically writing for a lay audience, editing, and communication through print and online media
- Ability to work well in a team setting, and collaborate with other team members to accomplish projects together

Preferred Experience

- Knowledgeable in native plants, desert gardening, composting, and rainwater harvesting systems
- Experience in gardening and native plant care

Application

Applicants must provide:

- a 1 page cover letter (statement of interest), including a brief statement of your philosophy and commitment to community-centered fundraising and DEI work
- a 1-2 page resume or list of previous work experience
- phone and email contact for 3 references (at least two professional)

Send to:

Lisa Shipek

Email: lisa@watershedmg.org

Phone: (520) 396-3266