Who We Are
Indiana Forest Alliance is a non-profit, statewide organization dedicated to the long-term health and well-being of Indiana’s native forests. We are volunteers and staff working to protect and restore Indiana’s forests. IFA serves citizens, organizations, landowners, and communities with a wide range of interests in Indiana’s forests. We provide accurate information to the people of Indiana to involve them in efforts to protect Indiana’s forests and ensure their opportunities for input into decision-making that affects forests. We speak for the native animals, plants, and other creatures who depend on Indiana’s forests and cannot speak for themselves.

Our mission is to preserve and restore Indiana’s native hardwood forest ecosystem for the enjoyment of all.

Our vision is to have a reforested Indiana where Hoosiers can enjoy a natural sanctuary and that harvests of our unique hardwoods are genuinely sustainable.

Our overall goals for the Indiana Climate Fellow are to help us with the implementation and outreach of our Forests for Indy initiative, helping preserve our urban forests and to assist with scientific research of Indiana’s wild forests. Forests play a vital role in sequestering carbon and mitigating climate change and we seek a student that is passionate about preserving our forests.

POSITION SUMMARY

The Indiana Climate Fellow will be responsible for taking the lead on select initiatives and assist with sustainability and climate projects. Based on the skillset of the student, they may provide support for the Forests for Indy initiative and/or eco-blitzes in our state’s wild forests.

Duties may include:
- Working with Indianapolis neighborhoods to adopt and implement protections for trees by conducting outreach and trainings
- Recruiting and organizing neighborhood volunteers in Indianapolis to champion tree protection in their neighborhoods
- Tracking the Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) for any proposals that would impact forests within Indianapolis
- Establishing a system for tracking DMD proposals that would impact Indianapolis forests
- Researching opportunities to create a cash flow from urban forest carbon sequestration
- Serving as a guide for eco-blitz scientists within our state’s forests
○ Assisting with outreach and advocacy activities including festivals and phone calls to members
○ Writing social media and blog posts, taking photos, and creating videos to promote the Forests for Indy initiative
○ Attending the Boot camp May 17 – 21, 2021

Qualifications

● Excellent verbal and written communication – comfortable giving presentations to groups
● Experience working with Google suite
● Previous coursework in biological science preferred
● GIS experience preferred

Compensation
Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Indiana Sustainability Development Program. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning May 24th through July 30th.

Feedback and evaluation
The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance including a weekly meeting with their supervisor. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Application instructions
To apply for this position, complete an application on the Sustain IU website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaust, ISDP Program Manager, at danmcphe@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Friday, Feb. 19, 2021.