



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

**210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite B, Gunnison, Colorado 81230
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP

With Stipend

The Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District is seeking a gregarious and outgoing intern with good “people skills,” to assist in developing a higher level of water consciousness among the younger generation in the Upper Gunnison valleys, and in organizing educational environmental stewardship projects in the field. This will require the student to be in the Upper Gunnison valleys for all or most of the period from June through September.

The District will pay a stipend of at least \$200 per academic credit, with a minimum of three credits (approximately 100 hours of intern work). There may be other funds available for this internship, and also the opportunity for more credits. The stipend will be paid upon completion of the internship. Priority for UGRWCD internships will be given to students of Western State Colorado University.

The intern will work closely with the UGRWCD General Manager and members of the UGRWCD Public Education and Outreach Committee, to increase public awareness (especially among the younger generation) of Upper Gunnison water resources, the role of the UGRWCD in facilitating the use and conservation of those resources, and the role of those resources in the larger region. This will include the following tasks, and other similar tasks as they emerge:

- Organizing educational field work experiences that improve the water health of the Upper Gunnison valleys. Specifically in 2015, this involves working with The Nature Conservancy in its ongoing “wet meadow restoration” project to improve Gunnison Sage-grouse habitat and the general resilience of the Upper Gunnison. This involves organizing groups of workers, transportation, lunch and other aspects of labor-intensive work sessions that provide opportunities for groups of people to contribute to the water health of their valley while learning about that water health in a hands on way.
- Organizing in advance fall- and spring-term programs at WSCU and in the public schools with organizations like “Protect Our Winters” (www.protectourwinters.org), and developing university and public-school class presentations on water issues that engage “young people working with younger people” on our water future.

UGRWCD interns will be expected to bring to the work their own sense of their own generation’s attitudes and awareness of water concerns, how that generation’s members best become engaged about such concerns, how they best communicate on such concerns, and how that sense about the coming generation can be incorporated into the UGRWCD outreach effort. The UGRWCD considers this to be critical for a successful internship; the generation now in high school and college will be bearing the brunt of the current statewide planning effort, and that effort will only succeed if the coming generation gains some ownership in the state’s water future.

To apply for this internship, please submit the following to the Upper Gunnison River WCD:

- A cover letter detailing your interest and any background experience in water-related work or activities;
- A resumé of work and educational experience;
- The names and contact information for three references, one academic, who can testify to your ability to work constructively and persuasively with others in a leadership role, and to organize activities.

Application deadline is March 31, 2015.