About The Douglas-Hart Foundation

The Douglas-Hart Foundation upholds the dream of its founder, Helen Douglas-Hart, in providing locations where people can come to know nature. Douglas-Hart Nature Center and The Friendship Garden are kept open and available for everyone in the community to enjoy, at no cost for admission.

The Nature Center is in Mattoon and is home to three unique Illinois habitats as well as almost two miles of trail and a visitor center. The Friendship Garden was created based off of the English Tea Gardens Helen saw in her travels. It sits in the middle of Mattoon and offers a waterfall, gazebo, and many picnic tables for families to enjoy.

The Whiteside Garden is our newest addition, acquired in December of 2018 and is a wonderful addition to the Foundation. It was created by Dr. Westly Whiteside (a former Botany professor of EIU) who created a beautiful botanical garden in Charleston. This property is currently being brought back to its former glory and will soon be available to the public as well.

What might I do during my CCI?

These are just a few of the things you might be doing to help out when you work at one or all of these properties.

**DOUGLAS-HART NATURE CENTER**
- Transplanting native plant seedlings to the woodlands, prairies, and wetlands habitats to support wildlife.
- Removing invasive plant species.
- Mulching and maintaining the trails.
- Maintaining demonstration gardens including the bird garden, butterfly garden, and bog garden.

**FRIENDSHIP GARDEN**
- Removing weeds from flower beds.
- Mulching & maintaining flower beds.
- Cutting back dead vegetation.
- Planting annuals and perennials throughout the season.

**THE WHITESIDE GARDEN**
- Removing weeds from flower beds.
- Mulching & maintaining flower beds.
- Cutting back dead vegetation.
- Maintaining garden beds

SCHEDULING

Scheduling is flexible to fit the complex needs of our Conservation Crew volunteers. You can choose your own time or meet at our re-occurring weekly times (which vary depending on location and project you are doing).

A minimum of 30 hours of service is required to complete the internship.

**BENEFITS & REWARDS**

With the completion of this internship, participants enjoy:
- A job listing on their resume
- A personal letter of recommendation (by request)
- A professional reference (by request)
- Networking opportunities
- Experience in the field of conservation. Knowledge of management skills and the use of a variety of tools.
- Experience in the field of horticulture. Knowledge of gardening & landscaping practices.

Fun incentives along the way:
- Occasion special Conservation Crew lunches
- At 9 hours receive a Conservation Crew water bottle (other prizes available to participants who have already earned this prize)
- At 30 hours receive a Conservation Crew T-shirt
The Conservation Crew Internship (CCI) is a team of ecologically-minded volunteers. They work with the Douglas-Hart Land Stewardship Director to continue improving the Douglas-Hart Nature Center, Friendship Garden, and The Whiteside Garden through a variety of projects and management practices.

Applications can be picked up at the Douglas-Hart Nature Center or found online at www.dhnature.org

Contact us
2204 Dewitt Ave. East, Mattoon, IL 61938
www.dhnature.org
217-235-4644
mgrant@dhnature.org

Conservation Crew Internship
GET SUMMER VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE
RESTORING ILLINOIS HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE & COMMUNITY