



## **Assessing and Mapping the Plant Communities of the North Creek Forest**

**THE FNCF MISSION:** To maintain and improve the ecological function of North Creek Forest (NCF) through stewardship, education and conservation in perpetuity.

**Primary Objective:** Assist in the creation of an overarching plan for the North Creek Forest in order to facilitate the next steps in stewardship and research.

**Project Description:** This project is one of three mapping tasks that will be used in the production of comprehensive and cohesive GIS maps of the NCF. Using GPS units, interns will map plant communities and habitat zones using established matrices throughout the forest and its borders. Interns will need to create field notes about plant communities and take associated data points. A critical to focus of this survey will be on the diversity and species richness of each plant community. It may also be necessary to take digital photos in order to enhance survey field notes. This is an exciting project that will build upon all the past projects and research conducted in the NCF to be used in the creation of a long term forest maintenance plan.

**Goals:** The ultimate goal of this project is to develop a long term forest maintenance plan that will be used to facilitate the next steps in stewardship and research in the NCF. Creation of comprehensive GIS maps will help to guide the design of this plan. Interns will play a critical role in gathering and analyzing the required data.

### **Intern Requirements:**

- Have completed at least one introductory GIS course
- The ability to operate GPS units in the field
- Be proficient with Microsoft Office products, especially Excel
- Be proficient in the identification of native and invasive plants
- Will need to be able to work independently with minimum supervision in all weather and field conditions
- Ability to complete project tasks within specified timeframes
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the team
- Keep the Friends of North Creek Forest (FNCF) updated on progress

### **Project Timeframe/Plan:**

- Attend monthly meetings with the FNCF team and UW advisors Amy Lambert lambea@uw.edu and Maura Shelton mauras@uw.edu, cell: 206-941-6569
- Commit to 5 or more hours per week for at least two quarters

- Provide training to new interns on the project
- Weekly work in the field gathering data and in the lab downloading data and notes

**Deliverables:**

- Produce a GIS map and final report of the areas surveyed
- Write two blog posts describing aspects of the research and include information about what interns have learned in order to inform the community about the ongoing work in the forest.

**Applications:**

To apply, please send a resume or CV, along with a cover letter and a letter of recommendation from a professor, to Emily Sprong, Executive Director, Friends of North Creek Forest

(425) 318-8144 - [emily@friendsnorthcreekforest.org](mailto:emily@friendsnorthcreekforest.org) - [www.friendsnorthcreekforest.org](http://www.friendsnorthcreekforest.org)