

Women in Community Sustainable Living Internship

*The restoration of vibrant, fierce communities of women across the globe would eradicate much of the world's injustice almost overnight." **Christiane Pelmas, MSW, www.therewilding.com***



Participants and Stewards of the Windward Community

Are you determined to create a just and sustainable culture?

Do you want to cultivate your talents and build lasting, life-affirming relationships?

The foundation for resilient, equitable culture is laid when women create alliances with one another and form mutually supportive circles that protect the long-term welfare of the community, and that inspire and require integrity and character— first in themselves, and then by their example in the other members of their community.

The Windward Center's *Women in Community Sustainability Living Internship* is a 12 week full-immersion experience intended to develop the baseline of skills needed for young women to play a key role in creating and maintaining thriving, sustainable community.

This internship will involve :

- The study of historical and modern examples of matrilineal cultures.
- On-going dialogue about the impact of patriarchal and consumer cultures on female sexuality and empowerment.
- The experience of daily living in a small, land-based community with ample opportunity for putting theory into practice.



2012 Intern Susie with a piglet she helped birth and raise!



Intern 2012, Daniela crafting a homemade pie from freshly harvested fresh cherries

Participants will be exposed to conceptual frameworks, practical techniques, and living examples of ways to maintain ecologically sustainable community.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the art and science of sustainable living : from cheese making and herbal arts to dry-land permaculture and animal husbandry, from aquaponics to converting of forest biomass into transportation fuel.

Each participant will have the flexibility to decide what they are most interested in working with, but we stress that each participant work with a living system during her internship to gain first hand experience in stewarding Life.

Internships are 12 weeks on average although longer or shorter stays are acceptable in some



2011 Apprentices Kotomi and Nicole feeding an abandoned newborn lamb

circumstances.

Internships begin on a rolling basis beginning in March and wrapping up by November. It is common for student internships to begin after the end of the spring semester and last through June, July and August.

Internships are hosted at Windward's rural 131 acre campus near the town of Klickitat Washington. Interns live on-site in individual housing, and share a common kitchen facility and workshops.

More About Windward

The Windward Education and Research Center is a village-scale sustainability research cooperative, dedicated to maintaining and developing the knowledge and skills needed to live well with the Earth and one another, managed by an intentional community of over 30 years in the making.

Windward's combined focus on theoretical research and hands-on practice allows interns to develop their ideas, and see them come to life through hard work and adaptation.

The nature of our approach to sustainability and the kinds of social, ecological and technological systems we are working to create are available on our website (www.windward.org).

Minimum & Desired Qualifications

Participants are expected to be self-motivated, passionate about creating sustainable community, and open to new ideas and intellectual discourse. Individuals should also have the capacity for research, critical examination and a desire to learn new skills and put ideas into practice.





Windward is working farm and community and so it is important that participants take work and safety seriously and are willing to accept the guidance of Windward members. Interns should want to live in a rural community context, with comfortable yet rustic accommodations.

Creating sustainable culture is truly an inter-disciplinary task, requiring the integration of a variety of skills and backgrounds, interests and passions. So we encourage women from all academic backgrounds to apply. More than academic interest, however, creating sustainable culture requires courage of heart, strength of spirit and a determination to create a better way of living.

Estimated work load and schedule

Interns are expected to contribute approximately 5 hours a day, 6 days a week, totalling 30 hours a week. The work is distributed through several different types of activities.

- Approximately 3 hours a day working collaborative with other on the general tasks associated with a sustainable community ;
- Approximately 2-4 hours a day working on individual sustainability internship project(s), having conversations or getting guidance from coordinators, researching, reading and studying as needed ;
- Writing One blog post (1-2 pages) every 2 weeks outlining their projects progress or some experience living at Windward.

Compensation, Oversight, and Technology Availability

This is an unpaid internship, however, Windward covers the cost of basic food, shelter, parking, storage, internet and laundry facilities. Interns have supervised access to wood, metal, welding and fabrication workshops, small-scale farm machinery, power and hand tools, and other equipment, as well as the natural resources on windward 131 acre living laboratory.

Wifi internet is available in all the billets, as well as in common spaces, and in some of outside sitting areas. There is a shared computer available for interns who do not have their own. Also available is Windward's extensive library as well as access to knowledgeable members of Windward.

Members and other on-site staff of the Windward Center will be working with and supervising interns throughout much of everyday. Since Windward members live on property, we are available 24/7.

Participants in the *Women in Community* internship will be working closely with Windward's Program Director and President of the Windward Foundation, Lindsay Hagamen.



Program Director, Lindsay Hagamen

Application Instructions:

To apply, send an email to Windward@gorge.net with Ping! In the subject line, with responses to following questions :

1. Why do you want to participate in the *Women in Community Sustainable Living Internship*?
2. Describe some of your experiences living in community, or working towards creating a sustainable culture.
3. Describe your academic background, personal interests, hobbies and passions.
4. What do you consider your strengths and weaknesses, particularly as it relates to living and working collaboratively with others?

What past participants have to say about their time at Windward

“Whether I was able to garner a new insight, come to terms with something, or simply be able to release held up emotions, the conversations I have had with each member of Windward have been so influential, and vital, to my growth. I am so thankful for everyone’s love and support.” **Daniela Panfil,**

Summer Intern 2013 , Arizona State University

“I am truly grateful that I have the opportunity for this internship!” **Susie Parrish, Summer Intern**

2013, Cal Poly San Louis Obispo