



Creating Tools for Engagement

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WEAVE Community is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

The Soil Factory (TSF: [The Soil Factory](#)), a project of WEAVE Community, is a vibrant community space where art, science and sustainability come together to create new collaborations, new experiences and new ideas. We celebrate experimental learning while exploring new partnerships. We are artists, students, scientists, farmers, entrepreneurs, and interested members of the community who meet to discuss, play, learn, and seek new solutions for the issues of our day. The Soil Factory is primarily a volunteer run experiment. We are a place where everyone is welcome.

As part of **The Cayuga Lake Watershed Internship Program (WIP)**, TSF seeks to hire two interns for Summer 2026. The interns will be working outdoors under the supervision of TSF volunteers and staff (scientists, farmers, artists and others) in a range of weather conditions. An inquisitive mind and the ability to work as a member of a team are important attributes that we seek in our WIP-TSF intern team. A love of plants, gardening, and some building experience are helpful, though specific experience is not required. Approximately 3 hours per week will be spent with other interns learning and sharing with our partners at WIP.

The interns will serve as **Experimental Garden Assistants** to support the Soil Factory's several gardens, with a central focus on the community's experimental vegetable gardens. The gardens are based on recycling of nutrients from local organic underutilized resources (cereal residues, leaves and yard trimmings, compost, biochar and the use of urine as a fertilizer). The work will involve garden design, planning and operations, as well as coordination with community members.

- The interns will also support the Indigenous medicinal plant garden and the initiatives of OJI:SDA' Sustainable Indigenous Futures, an Indigenous, women-led non-profit that works to reconnect Indigenous people from different Nations (including those of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy) to their ancestral practices using plant medicine, as part of their Plant Care Program producing traditional medicinal plants, and vegetables, at the Soil Factory site. The interns will help to conceptualize and communicate the roles that Indigenous plants have in the watershed, in supporting the health of people, landscapes and aquatic environments.
- Further, the interns will support a food forest, a marshy garden, a Miyawaki forest, as well as other activities at the Soil Factory. The interns may also connect with other gardens and farms; our mushroom cultivation and fermentation activities; our low- to no-cost building initiatives supporting efforts to develop innovative source-recovering toilet systems; support community pee-cycling efforts; and/or engage with experiments on bionutrient circularity that are being conducted here.

We are flexible. Besides prioritizing our experimental projects, we also want to create a valuable experience that recognizes and aids your personal development goals and interests. We encourage the WIP-TSF interns to engage with a selection of the many events and processes going on at TSF. Though you will be paid for your time and efforts, what you get out of this experience depends on your abilities, interests, and the questions you ask.

The time period for the internship is 20 hours per week for 10 weeks between June and August. Interns will participate in the **Cayuga Lake Watershed Internship Program (the WIP)**, a coordinated program supporting a number of partner organizations hosting interns working in a variety of environmental fields. All WIP participants will participate in an initial orientation session, weekly group activities and a final presentation. The orientation session will be held on June 1st and the final presentation will be on August 10th.

WEAVE Community is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to inclusivity and encourage all to apply.

Personal transportation is required as we are located at 142 Ithaca Beer Drive in a small industrial park between Buttermilk Falls and Robert Treman State Park, and public transportation is limited.

Compensation: \$20//hour

Application Logistics:

- Priority will be given to applications received by March 9th
- Use the form provided on the [Cayuga Lake Watershed Internship webpage](#). You will be asked to express your interests, to upload a resume, and provide one or two references. We will contact you to set up an interview.
- If you are interested in contributing to research supporting a transition to a circular bionutrient economy, we may be able to hire you half-time at Cornell to complement your WIP internship. Please express your interest in the application form.
- Questions may be directed to Forrest Meekins <jm2864@cornell.edu> or 757-375-7953