



## **Internship Learning Objectives**

**Equipment** - Become proficient in the use of various mower types, blowers, edgers, line trimmers, sprayers

**Safety** – Understand the correct and safe operation of equipment. Observe and understand safe working practices in all areas of landscape management and plant installation.

**Pruning** – Practice pruning techniques to improve skills using the most effective methods to create structurally sound and healthy landscape plants.

**Fertilization and Spraying** – Learn and practice fertilization and chemical spraying techniques and why specific materials are used in the landscape.

**Irrigation** – Observe and execute maintenance and repair techniques for irrigation systems in the landscape. Understand efficient irrigation design and best management practices in relation to water use.

**Environmental Stewardship** – Learn and understand the proper watering techniques for turf, container, bedding, and general landscape plants. Develop an understanding of proper chemical (fertilizer and pesticide) use and storage.

**Leadership Skills** – Develop skills by taking the lead on special projects. Shadow a mentor and multiple managers to observe their management and organizational skills.

**Critical Thinking / Problem Solving** – Identify problems and develop solutions for both long and short term situations or challenges. Utilize academic knowledge base, field experience, and observational analysis of management decision making styles.

**Time Management & Organizational Skills** – Learn the keys to successful management and satisfied clients through observation of daily scheduling of crews, weekly/ monthly scheduling of maintenance programs, and appointments with clients.

**Communication Skills** – Develop communication skills and learn how to work successfully with diverse populations, multiple personalities and different skill levels. Observe how to interact in a professional manner and listen to client needs. Interact with members of crews and become a part of the team. Create and give a presentation on work experience at the end of program.

**Plant and Pest Identification** – Exposure to new plant materials and how they are used successfully in the landscape, their cultural requirements, and growth characteristics. Identify the diseases and insects that may affect these plants and learn the controls necessary to prevent or eradicate them.

**Installation** - Experience installation methods used for different sites, preparation of area, bed layout, installation of plants, and logistics (how an installation is scheduled from start to finish).

**Bidding & Pricing** – Understand the scope of work involved in landscape maintenance and the bidding process for projects and the pricing of landscape enhancements. Recognize how a contract guides the scope of landscape maintenance or construction work in regards to time allotted, specifications required and materials used on each property or job site.