



**Black Mountain**  
Recreation & Parks

Programs • Events • Sports • Gardens • Active Aging • Greenways • Facilities

## **Town of Black Mountain 2020 Summer Internship**

This internship will offer a blended learning opportunity for students interested in gaining professional experience in the recreation and leisure services field. Specifically, this experience would be a combined effort between the Black Mountain Chamber of Commerce and the Black Mountain Recreation and Parks Department. It will provide a semester long internship for undergraduate students in the recreation and leisure services field interested in developing skills and knowledge in the following areas: marketing, special event planning, sponsorships, budgeting and administration in recreation and leisure services. These skills would be obtained through the planning, organization and execution of the Sourwood Festival, as well as being an active participant in the daily operations of a municipal recreation department.

### **[Info about the festival]**

The Sourwood Festival is an annual festival held each year in Black Mountain North Carolina. 2020 will be its 43rd year filling downtown Black Mountain with wholesome entertainment for both adults and children in the second weekend in August each year. Over 30,000 people travel from all over to be in attendance at the festival which grows in popularity each year. The festival highlights live music, dancing, arts & crafts, food vendors, kids rides and games. It is the perfect event for the entire family in an alcohol free environment. With over 200 vendors you will discover lots of local and unique arts and crafts to the favorite festival food choices.

### **[Info about the department]**

The Black Mountain Recreation and Parks Department provides recreation and leisure services for the Town of Black Mountain. Black Mountain is a small town in western North Carolina with a population of approximately 8,000 people nestled right outside of the Pisgah National Forest located 15 minutes east of Asheville, North Carolina. The Recreation and Parks Department employs five full-time staff persons and over 30 part-time and seasonal employees. Services provided by the Recreation and Parks Department include: youth and adults sports, programs, summer day camp, events for active aging adults, special events, facility rentals, community gardens, greenways and trails.

### **[Duties and responsibilities]**

Including but not limited to:

- Organize and schedule music/entertainment
- Organize and contract vendors
- Seek and secure sponsorships
- Coordinate safety inspections
- Design, create and execute marketing strategies
- Apply for and secure permitting for festivals and events
- Shadow recreation coordinators during daily operations
- Research grant opportunities
- Assist in the organization and execution of special events and programs

### **[Learning objectives]**

- Gain practical, hands on experience in recreation and leisure services management
- Allow participants to experience professional growth through performance reviews and evaluations
- Provide a platform for participants to apply concepts learned in the classroom
- Provide an opportunity for participants to develop a professional portfolio highlighting the skills used during their experience
- Gain insight and perspective in the field through working with established professionals
- Give participants exposure to as many aspects of a recreation and leisure services department as time allows

### **[Compensation]**

Individuals selected for this internship opportunity will be award a \$2,000 stipend as a means of compensation and to help cover any costs incurred while completing this internship.

Those individuals interested in applying should send a letter of interest, resume and references to [Joshua.Henderson@townofblackmountain.org](mailto:Joshua.Henderson@townofblackmountain.org).

For more information visit our website at [townofblackmountain.org](http://townofblackmountain.org). For questions or to apply contact Josh Henderson at [Joshua.Henderson@townofblackmountain.org](mailto:Joshua.Henderson@townofblackmountain.org) or call 828-767-0064