



# LCLT

LOPEZ COMMUNITY  
LAND TRUST 

*Building a Sustainable Island Community*

PO Box 25 Lopez Island, WA 98261(360) 468.3723 [www.lopezclt.org](http://www.lopezclt.org)

## **Internships in Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development and Housing Construction**

**Lopez Community Land Trust (LCLT)** offers structured internships for students, graduates or others interested in Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development (SARD) and Housing Construction.

### **Some General Information about LCLT**

Founded in 1989, LCLT is focused on unleashing the power of community. Interns have always been an important part of our innovative work. In 1992, LCLT completed the first affordable housing Community Land Trust neighborhood in the State of Washington. In 2002, LCLT developed the first mobile processing unit in the country. In 2009, LCLT completed the first net-zero energy, straw bale affordable housing neighborhood in the country. In 2017, LCLT preserved Stonecrest Farm, a 48-acre working farm on Lopez. Since our inception, LCLT has built six affordable housing neighborhoods (the last three with a goal of being “net zero” in energy usage) which provide 47 homes to Lopezians. In addition, LCLT publishes a biannual Farm Products Guide, established a fresh foods “community food bank,” and co-founded the LIFE Garden at Lopez School, an award-winning community farm to school program. In 2019, LCLT will celebrate 30 years of service to Lopez and 3 new homeowners will move into our latest cottage development at Salish Way II.

### **LCLT Internships:**

LCLT Internships on Lopez bring you into an intimate setting with many opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of the San Juan Islands and to experience living in an island community where we depend on and celebrate one another.

LCLT Interns come from many different backgrounds and interests including college students, people exploring career options or course of study and college graduates. Past Interns have hailed from across the US and 10 different countries. All Interns express an interest in developing a greater knowledge of sustainable living models including net-zero architecture and building, construction management, sustainable agriculture, affordable housing, renewable energy and food security issues.

Interns are expected to exhibit initiative and self-motivation and to treat the internship experience in much the same way as they would employment. From time to time, Interns are required to attend seminars as part of your work week.

LCLT's staff work with each Intern to develop a flexible workplan/learning contract that takes into account each intern's interests or needs while meeting LCLT's program and field/farm or project needs. Internships may begin as early as February with more slots available during warmer months from May through September.

LCLT will help locate housing for all Interns who require it. Housing is generally provided by volunteer hosts who have an extra room or guest housing. This housing is sometimes rustic, including wood-heated cabins, canvas tents or yurts and tepees. Other housing may be modern room within a house. As part of the agreement with housing hosts, Interns are required to work-trade one day per week for their hosts on a variety of projects which may include gardening chores or light home maintenance tasks. This arrangement is mutually agreed upon in advance. LCLT makes every effort to match interns and prospective hosts with complementary lifestyles and expectations.

Interns shall participate at the rate of 32–40 hours per week for a minimum of six weeks. Construction interns work from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on designated work days. Days may vary on farm or school placements. All internships require a minimum six-week commitment with four days per week on site and one day per week host work/trade. Interns receive \$100 per week stipend for discretionary food and expenses.

Please Note: There is a 6-week minimum time commitment for all internships. We cannot accommodate requests for shorter internships. Children and/or pets cannot be accommodated.

### **Still have questions?**

**If you have questions before you apply, please contact Susannah Dunlap at 360-468-3723 or [lclt25@rockisland.com](mailto:lclt25@rockisland.com). Please visit our website at [www.lopezclt.org](http://www.lopezclt.org).**

### **How To Apply**

Please begin the application process by completing the "Construction" or "Sustainable Agriculture" Intern Application, and returning it to LCLT by email or mail. No application or participation payment is required. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and start dates may vary.

Interns need to review the "Agreement." Signature is not required until you become an intern with LCLT. But it is important to understand and agree to the terms of our agreement before arriving on Lopez.

LCLT will contact you after reviewing your application, usually within three weeks.

Email: [lclt25@rockisland.com](mailto:lclt25@rockisland.com)

Mailing Address: LCLT Attn: Internship 2019 PO Box25, Lopez Island, WA 98261

## **Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development (SARD)**

**SARD Internships** offer the opportunity to combine on-farm learning and continued education. SARD Interns gain experience on organic farms and can develop research work for future projects. Additional opportunities are available for touring permaculture operations and biodynamic farms in the area. Work sites may include a horse drawn operated organic farm, an organic vineyard, an organic berry farm, orchards, botanical farms, soil building and permaculture for the latest affordable housing project or the farm-to-school program. SARD Interns follow the island farming season which can include planting, cultivation, harvesting and food preservation, market gardens, orchard gleaning and livestock production.

A unique placement within the SARD Internship is at the island school's **Lopez Island Farm Education (LIFE) Garden** which includes the school's cafeteria. This placement is most applicable for people interested in learning about farm to cafeteria programs, food security and nutrition. Equal time is spent "putting up" or preparing harvested food in the school kitchen from the LIFE Garden and island farms as working in the garden. Applicants will gain great experience in a garden-to-cafeteria program showcased in the Center for Ecoliteracy's book Smart by Nature as one of twenty innovative K-12 programs across the country that prepares students for a sustainable future.

Preference for placement in the LIFE Garden may be given to applicants who can commit to availability during the busy food preservation period of late summer/early fall.

*"I recognize how fortunate I am to be learning in and experiencing this beautiful environment and being able to actually contribute!"*  
– Lydia '18

*"I've never felt as happy as I am when I'm done with work."*  
– Lucas '18

## **Affordable Housing Construction**

**LCLT's Construction Internship** offers a unique opportunity to participate in innovative affordable housing building projects. LCLT construction projects include a site supervisor and crew who are committed to hands-on teaching. Safety is taught throughout the project including tools and site arrangement. Recycling procedures and daily clean-up are stressed. Interns are required to work with the homeowners, volunteers, and professional carpenters. Intern tasks may include preparing forms for concrete, foundation pouring and finishing, framing, roofing with metal roofing, sheathing, sheeting, installation of solar panels, insulating, blocking, finish trim, painting, strawbale construction, etc. Interns do not perform electric installation and plumbing due to code and licensing requirements, nor do they perform mudding and taping.

Each day begins with a circling of participants during which the construction supervisor lays out the day's tasks and assigns responsibilities. Lunch is provided with the construction supervisor and project manager present. Lunch is an important time for sharing the vision of the project, hearing interns' dreams for their own lives and bonding for teamwork on site.

There is an occasional classroom session as part of the schedule. We also make every effort to provide additional learning sessions if requested by an Intern.

*"As a 20-something raised on the convenience and consumerist distractions of the city, it was been humbling to realize that the robust activism and place-making on this semi-rural island matches that of my college campus. . . I felt seen." - Audrey '18*