Are you interested in plant/insect interactions and learning how to measure arthropod mediated ecosystem services in the field?

This summer our lab will be measuring native bees and pollination services in Chicago area community gardens. The goal of our research is to identify design and management strategies that can be implemented in community gardens to enhance native bee conservation and improve pollination services.

We are looking for a motivated individual to join our lab as a research assistant for the summer/fall of 2011. Your primary responsibilities will include helping graduate students and postdocs collect field data. Specific duties will include: assisting with experimental design and setup, collecting and processing arthropod and plant samples, and managing greenhouse experiments. In this position, you will have the opportunity to learn about plant/insect interactions as well as how to design and implement field research. This position will be based in Champaign, but field work will be conducted in Chicago. Applicants must have a valid driver’s license as travel with the lab will be required for collecting trips. This position will begin in May and run through August. Hours are flexible ($10/hour).

To be considered for this position, please submit a current resume along with the names of two people that can serve as references. Interest in biology/ecology is preferred but we will consider applicants from all disciplines. Send your materials (in one PDF) to Dr. Ashley Bennett, Department of Crop Sciences, abennett@illinois.edu. After initial screening of materials, finalists will be contacted for interviews.