Internship at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens

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**Intern Responsibilities**
- Plant and maintain all vegetable beds
- Assist in the planting and preparing of the conservatory
- Assist with weekly children’s classes
- Supervise children’s activities
- Maintain moisture levels throughout the gardens, greenhouses, and bedding plants
- Design, plant, and maintain city beds
- Supervise garden volunteers
- Coordinate planting of thousands of annuals
- Open and close gardens

**Overview:**
This summer I worked as an intern for the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens in Cheyenne, Wyoming and was specifically over the Paul Smith Children’s Village. I applied for an internship at this garden because I volunteered in the garden in the past and knew it would be a rewarding experience.

**Things Learned**
- Identification of plants
- Proper planting seasons
- Necessary plant environments and climates
- Greenhouse maintenance
- Integrated pest management methods
- Landscape design
- Required soil composition for various planting environments
- Teaching methods for all ages
- Improved communication skills
- Leadership abilities

**Favorite Part**
The most rewarding part of my internship was working in the new conservatory. The botanic gardens just opened the 28,000 square foot extension in August. I was able to help convert an empty area with a dirt floor to an indoor oasis. It is breathtaking and a beautiful addition to our community.

**Picture 1 (Left):** Helping a group of volunteers plant the front entrance.
**Picture 2 (Right):** Four of the annual beds I planted this summer.

**Conclusion:**
Doing my internship at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens was an overwhelmingly amazing experience. I would recommend doing a biology internship at a botanic garden, especially for people interested in plant science.