



CIRCULAR PACKAGING SOLUTIONS INTERNSHIP

The Problem

Unlike many other industries, packaging can be necessary in the food industry for important safety and consumer health reasons. In today's world, most packaging used across all industries is made of plastic. Some of this plastic goes to landfills, but much of it ends up in the environment, polluting natural areas including important bodies of water.

The Opportunity

How might food businesses develop and use packaging that regenerates natural ecosystems? The Sustainable Packaging Solutions intern will research and synthesize information on circular packaging solutions for small food businesses. Areas to explore include packaging made from recycled materials, biodegradable packaging, and even packaging reuse and return models.

Basic Qualifications

Intern must be 18 years of age or older and have the ability and desire to communicate with diverse audiences. This position will require an intern to be onsite at Plant Chicago's location (4459 S Marshfield Ave) for a minimum of 8 hours per week, and may also include occasionally traveling to small business locations on Chicago's southwest side with a Plant Chicago staff member. Additional hours may be completed offsite if desired.

Desired Interest & Experience

- Sustainable packaging
- Chicago waste systems & policy
- Food business operations
- Report writing
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Interest in and/or experience working with small businesses

The Circular Packaging Solutions intern will work with Plant Chicago's Circular Economy Project Specialist.

To apply: Please send a resume and cover letter to Liz Lyon, Small Business and Circular Economy Manager, at elizabeth@plantchicago.org. Applications will be accepted until Thursday, April 30.