



Dear Person,

Thank you for inquiring about internship opportunities at Reevis Mountain School!

We welcome a special few people to come do work on the farm in exchange for living quarters and meals, for whatever period of time is enriching for both you and us. Although we don't require a commitment on either side, we prefer that you be able to stay at least three months, as it takes about a month just to get a new intern trained to the point of working independently, and it gets more fun as you learn your way around and can work on your own. We cannot afford to pay interns, and most interns cannot afford to pay us, in dollars.

If you have not already looked at our website, please do (www.reevismountain.org). It will give you a good idea of our place. Reevis is not just an organic farm or a school for self-reliance skills—what we're also doing is providing a place with a wholesome and enriching way of life—a place that's healthy spiritually, emotionally, nutritionally, and physically. It's a magical place that has changed the lives of many people who've spent time here.

We look forward to learning more about you!

-Bigfoot and the Reevis crew

Things you should know about Reeves Mountain School ...

- ☞ Reeves Mountain School of Self-Reliance is a wilderness homestead, spiritual retreat, and school for skills and attitudes that enhance self-reliance. Reeves provides a place of inspiration, peace, and reverence for nature, where, in a magical remote wilderness setting, students and interns can learn natural healing and self-reliance skills, experience growing their own food, develop spiritual awareness, enjoy a spirit of community, and live healthfully.
- ☞ Reeves is headed by Peter “Bigfoot,” who founded RMS in 1979, then as a “new age” community. Bigfoot is best known for his 1976 summer solo trek across the Sonoran Desert, when he trekked 85 miles in 15 days, bringing no food or water and foraging for his needs. He is a respected natural healer and Southwestern herbologist.
- ☞ Our human population usually varies from two to seven.
- ☞ We teach and promote self-reliance and nature awareness through (1) offering classes and lectures on wilderness survival, natural healing, meditation, and homestead living skills, (2) providing an example of a working off-the-grid homestead, (3) growing healthy organic food for ourselves and for market, (4) producing and selling herbal remedies formulated by Peter Bigfoot, (5) offering work-exchange internships, and (6) publishing books about herbology and natural healing. RMS is a place of inspiration and peace, providing a space to develop spiritual awareness and to foster personal health, wisdom, and joy.
- ☞ There is no typical day at Reeves. From day to day we do whatever is needed to live healthy and happy in the wilderness, close to the source. This includes maintaining the farm, growing our food, caring for our health, and learning and growing in nature awareness, self-awareness, spirituality, and our ability to live peacefully and joyfully together. Every day there is more to learn.
- ☞ Our philosophy is based in metaphysics. We encourage meditation, yoga, and other spiritual practices. We often read from metaphysical books after supper, and taking part in these readings is an important part of our community life. Recently we have been meditating as a group each morning after breakfast. If you are not interested in metaphysics, you will probably not be happy here.
- ☞ We practice natural healing using herbs and the energy of our hands. Bigfoot is an experienced healer, but he is not a medical doctor. The nearest hospital is an hour’s drive away over rough country roads, and we cannot guarantee that a vehicle or a driver will be available to take you to a hospital, clinic, or doctor’s office. We provide free natural healing for illnesses and injuries that you experience while at Reeves ... if you prefer to go to a medical doctor, clinic, or hospital, you will be responsible for the costs.
- ☞ Reeves is located within the Superstition Wilderness of eastern Arizona, south of the town of Roosevelt. Our nearest neighbor is six miles away, and the nearest “conveniences” are ten miles away. The road into our location requires a 4WD at the best of times and is occasionally flooded or damaged so that we cannot leave or return to the farm for a period of hours, days, or sometimes longer. Please email us for road conditions before you make plans to drive in.
- ☞ Interns live in private spaces, usually in yurpees (yurt + teepee combo). Sometimes a small cabin or our teepee is available. These spaces are cozy and have bed frames, small furniture, and either a wood stove or a propane heater. They have no electricity or water. We spend most of our awake time outdoors or in the common house.

- ☞ The common house includes a full kitchen, living room with space for yoga, porch/workroom, library, office, and healing room. The house has electricity and running water (filtered spring water). Our stone showerhouse provides solar and wood-heated hot water year round. The farm does not have flush toilets—clean and hygienic outhouses are located conveniently around the property. We are blessed to have water year-round from several sources: the creek, two wells, and mountain springs. Water does have to be filtered or treated for drinking.
- ☞ You will be living in a yurpee (yurt + teepee combination), which you may share if you wish, or in a single cabin. You will be responsible for the cleanliness and maintenance of your living quarters. Cabins are wood frame construction and have single beds, desks, and propane heaters. Yurpees are both more spacious and more rustic. A bed frame with foam mattress and basic furniture (chair, dresser) are provided. Yurpees are heated with wood stoves. Whether you are staying in a cabin or a yurpee, you should bring your own bedding (sleeping bag or pillow, sheets, and blanket), headlamp and/ or flashlight with additional batteries and work gloves; and be aware that the living quarters are not completely spider-, scorpion-, or rodent-proof. Yurpees and cabins have no electricity or running water.
- ☞ We have limited internet available for interns via LAN cable, but no cell service or telephone service. Globe has a wifi coffeehouse and a library that offers free computer and Internet use. Our satellite based internet service provides a limited amount of data each month, which is primarily for official Reeves business. At appropriate times, interns may be able to check email and manage personal accounts as long as sufficient data remains for office use. Streaming videos and music is prohibited. Cell service can sometimes be found from the top of a hill near Reeves. We are happy to take letters to the post office for you when we go into town which is usually once or twice per week.
- ☞ We serve two meals per day (breakfast and supper), and interns are welcome to prepare their own snack lunch. Our daily diet consists of raw and cooked vegetables and fruit that we grow ourselves and natural meat and fish (raised here or hunted/fished in the wild), plus whole grains, beans, olive oil, dairy in limited amounts, spices, and sea salt purchased from outside. Bigfoot is a strong believer that meat is an important part of diet for most people, and we also believe that healthful food combining is important. Access to sugary foods is limited, and, with a few exceptions, no commercially processed foods are available. If your preferred diet is heavy on nuts and seeds, please bring your own supplies.
- ☞ All meals are prepared in the RMS kitchen under the supervision of RMS staff. All personal food must be stored in the kitchen or food storage areas. Private “stash” of food are not allowed in living quarters because of issues with insects, rodents, and larger wildlife.
- ☞ **Alcohol, smoking, illegal drugs (use or possession), firearms, fireworks, and pets are prohibited.** We discourage junk food and the use of electronics at Reeves. The playing of music on electronic devices is limited to the use of personal music players with earphones so that the sound is not audible to others. We treasure the serenity of nature. And much as we love dogs, Reeves is not a good place for them.
- ☞ All of us who live at Reeves strive to abide by the Integrity Agreement that follows this application. You will be asked to sign and abide by it as well.
- ☞ Internships are on a pure work exchange basis; RMS provides living quarters and meals in exchange for a full day’s work. **No monetary pay is available.** Occasional exceptions may be made for dependable and skilled interns who stay at Reeves for an extended time. Interns are free to come and go as they please (with their own transportation), although we ask that they be considerate and honor any agreements about work to be done, etc.
- ☞ Interns are welcome to stay as long as the situation is mutually enriching for all concerned. There is no commitment on either side. Please have in mind a place to go and a way to get there in case you find that you desire or are asked to leave before your expected stay is up.

- ☞ When we settle on an arrival date, we ask for a \$50 deposit to hold your spot, which will be returned to you after you have been here two weeks. We do this to reduce the number of people who do not arrive as planned, leaving us short handed.
- ☞ For more information about Reeves Mountain School, and pictures, please visit our website:
www.reevismountain.org.



Application for Work-Exchange Internship

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dear Person,

We are asking the following questions in order to help us predict whether an internship at Reeves Mountain School would be mutually enriching for you and for us. By giving full and candid answers, you can help us get an accurate feeling for how you would fit into Reeves, how you could contribute, and what the challenges and benefits might be for you. Feel free to give more information than is asked for.

You can submit this application by email (info@reevismountain.org) or regular mail (RMS, 7448 S. J-B Ranch Rd., Roosevelt, AZ 85545). If you are coming with another person, please fill out individual forms – there is a spot in the application to let us know who you are travelling with.

For the yes/no questions, please either circle yes or no, or delete the one that does not apply.

Thank you!

Date of birth: _____

Hometown (where you consider home): _____

Do you currently smoke, depend on alcohol, or use illegal drugs? Yes No

If "yes," this program is not for you—we do not allow smoking, alcohol, or illegal drugs (use or possession) at RMS. Please do not apply.

How did you hear about us? _____

Have you been to Reeves before? If so, when? _____

Why would you like to come to Reeves?

(feel free to add more pages or write on the back of the sheet)

When would you like to come? _____

How long do you envision staying with us? _____

Are you planning to come with another person? Yes No

If yes, please give their name(s): _____

In order to get to Reeves, you need either a 4X4 vehicle or to hike in. WE DO NOT PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION. If you are flying or busing in to Phoenix/Mesa, there is a shuttle service, (stagecoachexpressshuttle.com), that can get you from Phoenix to Globe for \$80 each way. Reservations are necessary. They MAY be able to get you all the way to Roosevelt, if you make specific arrangements in advance.

Would you like information about a hostel in Phoenix? Yes No

Will you be bringing a car? Yes No

Will you need to come and go from RMS during the time of your internship? Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

What is your preferred daily diet? (Please include number and times of meals and types of food, including any dietary restrictions or allergies.)

Do you have any illness or condition that would interfere with doing the physical work described elsewhere in this application? Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

What medications do you anticipate taking while at RMS, if any?

Are you able to lift 50 pounds and carry it 20 feet? Yes No

Are you able to hike six miles without taking more than a ten-minute break? Yes No

Do you tend to be accident-prone? Yes No
absent-minded? Yes No

Do you have a greater than average fear of spiders? Yes No
snakes? Yes No
scorpions? Yes No
insects? Yes No
rodents? Yes No
wild animals? Yes No
the dark? Yes No (It gets VERY dark here!)
heights? Yes No

What level of formal education have you completed? _____

What line(s) of work have you been doing in the past few years?

Do you have previous experience living in a communal situation? Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

Suppose the following are two extremes in attitudes about the way people should behave: one is that there should be rules and people should always adhere to them consistently ... the other is that ideally there should be no rules and people should do what is right in the context of the moment. Where on the continuum between those extremes would your attitude fall? (Feel free to explain or qualify.)

Please name two things that make you angry:

1) _____

2) _____

And two things that make you happy:

1) _____

2) _____

What's your favorite thing to do?

We are blessed to live in a very special place—eight miles inside the Tonto National Forest on an inholding (land surrounded on all sides by National Forest) that was homesteaded in the 1920's. And we live here very comfortably, with adequate electricity, mountain spring water to drink, the best food money can't buy, freedom from most EMFs and pollutants, deer and bears for neighbors, and a starry night sky.

The things we do every day are the things we have to do in order to continue to live here. That means: growing our garden; caring for our orchard, vineyard, and animals; maintaining the buildings, tools, and infrastructure; growing and harvesting herbs for our herbal remedies business; gathering firewood; holding classes (spring and fall), and so on.

In order to live here, we do need to earn money. Although we grow most of our own food, we purchase things like grains, oils, spices, and paper goods. (Note: As for meat, we aim to keep the number of people here low enough that we can supply our own home-grown or hunted meat without purchasing it.) Our largest expenses are propane and the costs of running our vehicles. To earn money, we have three streams of income: our herbal remedies business, classes that we teach in the spring and fall, and produce sales in season.

We receive no government grants or funds, and although we are a nonprofit educational organization (501c3), donations cover less than 10 percent of our operating expenses—so, financially, we are primarily self-supporting. Interns are often involved in our money-making enterprises by harvesting and processing herbs, helping during classes (they are also encouraged to attend the classes as long as chores get done), and of course helping grow the produce that we sell.

As you might imagine, all of this keeps us busy. But we do find time for other activities, things we just enjoy doing and learning. Bigfoot makes his own shoes; interns play music, learn to make sourdough bread, do basketry or hide tanning, and so on. We also spend a good amount of time at the table as a family, reading aloud and talking after meals.

Here's a list of things that could and often do happen on a normal day at Reeves:

- weeding the garden (which could mean digging out bermuda grass or bindweed)**
- thinning seedlings**
- hand-watering young plants twice a day**
- wheeling 50 barrows of composted manure into the garden**
- harvesting and processing herbs**
- irrigating the orchard**
- clearing brush around the property**
- moving 50-pound sacks of poultry feed from one place to another**
- shoveling a truckload of sand for road maintenance**
- digging up and processing burdock root**
- chopping firewood**
- giving natural healing treatments to a person who's been injured or got sick**
- tilling a bed in the garden**
- capturing a rattlesnake and taking it away down the road**
- getting up at 4:30 to harvest for market day**

entertaining a group of visitors
preparing meals (takes 2-3 hours each day)
cleaning the dishes and kitchen after meals
driving down to the lake for a swim
pruning trees in the orchard
harvesting seeds from the garden
hiking up the creek to harvest wild plants
digging up part of an irrigation pipe to fix a leak
planting a new tree in the orchard
repairing tree basins in the orchard
mopping the kitchen floor
fixing a mechanical problem with the tiller
replacing a pane of glass in the greenhouse
mending a screen in a cabin
building a new shed
cleaning and tidying the farm prior to a class or visitor group
processing a duck for supper
tending to a turkey that's been stung by a scorpion
taking apart the kitchen drain pipes to unclog them
going out in a rainstorm to dig drainage control ditches
scrubbing out the irrigation tank

These are the kinds of things we spend most of our time doing, and we enjoy it all, almost all the time—that's why we're here and not living somewhere else doing something else. We're looking for people who would enjoy these things, too. So, considering that you would be doing a variety of activities each day, and some days are longer or shorter than others, would you please tell us how many hours per day or per week you would *enjoy* being engaged in these activities? _____

Also, sometimes things come up ... for example, a rainy day turns into a deluge in the evening, and we have to put on our rain gear and dig ditches so structures don't flood ... or we *have* to get a planting bed ready and planted on a particular day ... or someone gets sick and others have to pitch in a little more. Would you be willing to work a little longer on some occasions, when necessary? _____

Please be honest with these responses. If you would not enjoy doing the things we do here to the extent we do them, then you would not be happy here. In fact, the best case is when the person doesn't even consider these activities to be work. This is just the way we live. Bigfoot's motto is Live What You Love! If you wouldn't love being here and doing what we do, please don't apply.

For the table below, please place a mark in the appropriate column(s). Feel free to give more information on a separate page or the back of this sheet.

Activity	I have skills or experience relevant to this activity	I am interested in doing or learning this activity	I am unable or unwilling to do this activity
Weeding			
Planting			
Tilling/garden bed preparation			
Harvesting			
Cooking			
Food preservation			
Housekeeping			
Sewing, mending			
Firewood gathering/splitting			
Carpentry			
Stone masonry			
Electrical			
Solar (PV or water systems)			
Wind power			
Road maintenance			
Auto repair			
Small engine repair/maintenance			
Welding			
Irrigation			
Livestock husbandry			
Slaughtering & processing livestock			
Orchard care			
Vineyard care			
Natural healing			
First aid			
Herb harvesting & processing			
Bookkeeping skills			
Computer skills			

Please describe your gardening/farming experience and interests. _____

What is your favorite book? _____

Do your decisions tend to be based more on what is good for the group or what is in your own individual best interest?

How do you respond to taking instruction and criticism?

Do you speak English fluently? Yes No

Do you meditate? If so, we'd be interested in knowing a little about your practice.

In what ways could you contribute to life at Reevis? We're interested in how you could contribute both to daily work *and* to the harmony and emotional tone of our homestead.

Please send a current picture of yourself. We do not consider race, gender, or age, but we would like to see who we are communicating with, and it helps us get a sense of your personality. It's not a beauty contest! Please email it or attach it to this form.

What do you hope to gain for yourself by being at Reeves?

What do you anticipate being the challenges for you of living and working at Reeves?

Please sign below to indicate that the information you have provided on this application is correct to the best of your knowledge, and that you have read and understand the information about Reeves Mountain School given above.

(Name)

(Date)

We are looking for people who have an attitude of assistance, appreciation, and respect. If you would bring an attitude of resistance, resentment, or disrespect, please do not apply.

Reevis Mountain School Integrity Agreement

- 1) If I have an emotionally charged grievance, I will write it down on paper to organize my thoughts so my points will be direct, honest, and easily understood.
- 2) I will keep in mind that we are all on the same team here. I agree to look for solutions, not problems.
- 3) I will not deliver my grievance as an attack, but rather as an effort to gain understanding and a better line of communication, attempting to see it from the other's point of view.
- 4) I pledge myself to be a love giver, not a fault finder. I will strive to be aware of my intent and speak only truth as I understand it to be.
- 5) I will be ready to expand my truth when a better idea presents itself.
- 6) If I am presented with a grievance, I will respectfully listen to what is being said.
- 7) I will not defend myself. I will consider what is being said as a suggestion for improvement.
- 8) I will explain, but not defend, my position. I will be honest, I will not blame, I will not argue. I will seek understandings and solutions.
- 9) I understand that honesty solves most problems and anything less creates them.
- 10) I will not do something I permanently regret because I am temporarily upset.
- 11) I, _____, have read the above guidelines and promise to do my very best to practice these guidelines in my daily life.

Name

Date