Dawes Arboretum

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About:

Dawes Arboretum is located in Jacksontown, Ohio. Around an hour away from Columbus. It has 1149 acres of plant collections and natural areas.
History

“About 1917, Beman Dawes purchased 140 acres of the old Brumback farm in Licking Township. The family renamed the farm “Daweswood” and the brick, half-century-old farmhouse became their country home. It was Beman Dawes’ aim to inspire people to plant trees. He planted trees at Daweswood, striving to obtain specimens from all over the world that would survive in central Ohio. By the time The Dawes Arboretum was founded in 1929, over 50,000 trees had been planted and the grounds had doubled in size to 293 acres. Today, The Dawes Arboretum displays nearly 5,000 different types of woody plants. Active records are kept on more than 30,000 individual plants.” – DawesArb.org
The Dawes Arboretum is dedicated to increasing the love and knowledge of trees, history and the natural world. Founded in 1929 by Beman and Bertie Dawes, The Arboretum was inspired by the couple’s love of trees and nature. Today we remain dedicated to our mission through providing exceptional educational programs and events as well as maintaining incredible horticulture collections on over 1,800 acres of beautiful grounds.
Experience

Over the summer I received much experience due to the fact that Dawes is mostly a volunteer powered operation. This allowed a intern like myself to fill roles that both volunteers could and could not do.
Duties: Mapping

I would assist staff members with mapping plants and implementing that information into their system.
Duties: Lab work

Assistance with helping David Brandenburg organize, implement and rearrange files also any miscellaneous help he required.
Duties: Plant removal

There were multiple times in which my duties consisted of helping grounds teams in the removal or relocation of plants.
Overall it was a great experience, I learned a lot and the experience from people that met were the most valuable thing that I acquired.