

Gracie Hedrick: “A Small Town with A Big Heart”

Hello! My name is Gracie Hedrick. I am a junior agriculture communication major at Sam Houston State University. Over the summer I had the opportunity to take part in the Texas Rural Internship Program also known as T.R.I.P. This two-month internship was a great experience that showed me how my degree can benefit me later in life and in the present.



My T.R.I.P experience took place in Dripping Springs, Texas located just West of Austin. The City of Dripping Springs placed me at the Dripping Springs Ranch Park. The Ranch Park is a 100-acre facility that includes an indoor and outdoor arena, a ranch house, a event room and multiple outdoor recreational areas. My main job was to assist the Ranch Park manager with all events. During my time at the park I assisted in hosting multiple private parties, charity events, horse shows and community events. Hosting these events included everything from paper work a week before to helping on the actual day of the event. I also assisted with the Ranch Park record keeping system and scheduling at city hall.



The job helped me grow in more ways than I could have ever imagined. I learned all of the steps it takes to host large events. I truly enjoyed getting to know all of the lovely people of Dripping Springs, it truly is a small town with a big heart. I enjoyed getting to see a small community thrive in the urbanized world. I would recommend this internship program to any other Sam Houston State University student. The T.R.I.P experience generates an unforgettable hands-on experience for college students that cannot be obtained any other way.



For more information regarding the Texas Rural Internship program, please contact Dr. Shannon Lane at slane@shsu.edu or by phone at 936-294-4380

