

Alaina Ring

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT · PLANT, SOIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

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Education

University of Maine

Orono, Maine

MS PLANT SOIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

2022 - ongoing

- Thesis Title: Scaling up Agroforestry: Private Nursery Perspectives
- Advisor: Dr. Rachel Schattman

St. Lawrence University

Canton, New York

BSC GEOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

2015 - 2019

- Majors: Geology and Environmental Science
- Minor: Outdoor Studies

University of Montana

Missoula, Montana

WILD ROCKIES FIELD INSTITUTE

Summer 2018

- Environmental Ethics Field Course: Climate Change and Visions of a Sustainable Future

University of Texas

Dallas, Texas

GEOLOGIC FIELD CAMP

Summer 2018

- Mapping and Structural Geology: New Mexico and Colorado

Professional Experience

Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant

Aug 2022 - Present

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

- Investigate private nursery capacity for agroforestry through through interviews and qualitative analysis
- Collaborate with the USDA National Agroforestry Center and assist organizations with aligned research goals, with a specific focus on scaling up agroforestry.

Agroforestry Demonstration Site: Design and Project Manager

2023 - Present

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE, USDA NORTHEAST CLIMATE HUB

- Research, design, and execution of an agroforestry demonstration forest
- Development of outreach curriculum, including a 5-session workshop series

Sustainable Forestry Crew Member

Aug 2021-Nov 2021

NORTHWOODS STEWARDSHIP CENTER

- Assisted resident foresters in completing management plans and low-impact sustainable logging projects
- Certified in Game of Logging Level I and II

Outdoor Educator and Farmhand

2021

NEW VILLAGE FARM

- Mentored youth ages 5-15 in animal husbandry, basic carpentry, wildcrafting, plant identification, and outdoor survival skills with an emphasis on self-responsibility and building connections to the land

Beekeeper, AmeriCorps Farm-to-School Program Coordinator

2020-2021

THE SCHOOLHOUSE LEARNING CENTER

- Served 1,710 hours during a 12-month period as a farm-to school-program coordinator
- Awarded grant for educational garden expansion
- Organized school wide events to connect students with sustainable and localized food production

Apprentices and Garden Manager

2020

SPOONFUL HERBALS

- Engaged in medicine making and advocating for wellness sovereignty in the local community
- Cultivated a wide range of medicinal plant species and performed regular garden maintenance

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

\$60,000	Presidential Leadership Scholarship , St. Lawrence University	2014-2019
	National Honors Society for Earth Sciences , St. Lawrence University	2016-2019
\$1000	Horticultural Research Scholarship , Maine Landscape and Nursery Association	January 2024

Presentations

Ring, A. 2023. "Evaluation of Private Nursery Capacity for Agroforestry" Northeast and Southern Conservation Nursery Conference, State College, PA.

Teaching Experience

- 2020-2021 **Farm, Food, Forest Program**, Developed and taught farm, food, and forest based programming to ages 3-12 at the Schoolhouse Learning Center.
- 2018, 2019 **GEO 103: The Dynamic Earth**, Introduction to earth sciences. Field-based lab gives students experience with rocks, minerals, and mapping.
- Fall 2022 **PSE 312: Sustainable Food Systems: Challenges and Opportunities**, Facilitate students' engagement with contemporary and historical food systems problems and issues.

Professional Development

** presentation or poster exhibition*

TRAININGS AND WORKING GROUPS

- current **USDA Northeast Climate Hub GradCAMP Program**, University of Maine
- current **Agroforestry Coalition Working Groups**, Nurseries and Demonstration Sites
- current **Agroforestry Priority Strategy Team**, VT Farm-to-Plate
- current **DEI Reading Group**, University of Maine
- 2016-2019 **Divestment Club**, President, St. Lawrence University

CONFERENCES

- 2024 **North American Agroforestry Conference***, Association for Temperate Agroforestry
- 2023 **International Association for Society and Natural Resources**, Portland, ME
- 2023 **Northeast and Southern Conservation Nursery Conference***, State College, PA

COURSEWORK

- 2022 **Nursery Management**, Dr. Bryan Peterson
- 2022 **Biology of Woody Plants**, Dr. Jay Wason
- 2023 **Plant Propagation**, Dr. Bryan Peterson
- 2023 **Experimental Design**, Dr. Allie Gardner
- 2023 **Responsible Conduct of Research**, Dr. Derek A. Michaud