



P. O. Box 7133
Lowell, MA 01852
www.millcitygrows.org

Urban Farm and Food Access Apprenticeship

2019 Apprentice Job Description

Full-time, Hourly, Seasonal

Start Date: May 11th, 2019

Organization Description:

Mill City Grows (MCG) is growing a healthier community in Lowell, Massachusetts by creating new opportunities for residents to access healthy, locally grown, affordable foods. Our mission is to foster food justice in Lowell by improving physical health, economic independence and environmental sustainability through increased access to land, locally grown food, and education.

Urban Farm Program Overview:

Using sustainable and organic growing practices, Mill City Grows' Urban Farm produces a wide variety of vegetables for a culturally diverse population. We grow on about 5 acres at three separate farm sites within the city of Lowell. The Urban Farm grows produce for 6-8 weekly mobile market stops from June - November (including two year-round markets), our internal program produce needs, a small Farm Share pilot and donation outlets (ie. emergency food service providers and transitional living organizations) for bumper crops.

Who We Are:

Our team often finds that our most inspired and fulfilled co-workers share the following ideals and sentiments:

- Cultivate Community!
- Ever learning, ever growing
- Team: We've got each other's backs!
- Passion: Not just a job
- Love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life!
- Share with each other and care for each other
- We value Equity and Inclusion
- Resilience: Everything we need is all around us

Mill City Grows' Apprenticeships:

Mill City Grows is offering two full-time, seasonal apprentice positions from May 11th through November 6th to join our fun, hard-working team. Apprentices will report directly to the Assistant Urban Farm Manager and work alongside the Urban Farm and Food Access Coordinator. All members of the Farm & Market Team are required to regularly work weekends and are expected to give the team 3 weeks' notice when requesting time off. We are looking for driven and eager co-workers who are enthusiastic about joining a team of sustainable farming nerds and about participating in the diverse and hardy community of Lowell. This apprenticeship is an intensive work and learning opportunity for serious candidates, seeking to broaden their knowledge of fruit and vegetable growing practices and techniques, and to trial their potential interest in a vital and fulfilling career.



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Responsibilities:

- Assist farm managers in all aspects of vegetable production, harvesting, washing, packing, delivering, and selling.
- Apprentices will be trained in the approach and operation of all farm equipment; including hand tools, small motor equipment, cultivating and tillage tractor, and all primary tillage.
- Act as a MCG food justice ambassador and engage with volunteer and community members to ensure that all visitors to the farm and markets understand our work and feel welcomed and a part of our team.

Qualifications:

- Experience or demonstrated interest in gardening and/or sustainable agriculture
- Aptitude for physically demanding, fast-paced and repetitive work in all weather conditions (cold, heat, rain, hail, wind)
- Ability to safely lift and carry 40 pounds repeatedly
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Willingness to problem solve and think critically
- Positive attitude and willingness to work alone and as part of a team
- Experience with Google Suite applications (Gmail, Cal, Drive, Docs, Sheets, etc)
- Valid driver's license, safe driving record, and reliable means of transportation to work
- Goofy sense of humor is a plus!

Compensation and Educational Opportunities:

- \$12/hour
- 3 PTO days
- Accrued Sick Time
- Professional Development opportunities
 - Strongly encouraged to attend CRAFT (Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training) farm visits and discussions throughout the season
- Fresh produce from the farm!
- Formal classroom and field training sessions as well as informal hands on training throughout the season (10+ sessions per season)
- Provided with a full informational packet for the season
 - including the season's crop plan, reference materials, and other useful resources.
- "Apprentices RUN the Farm!" is a late-season experiential learning opportunity, allowing our apprentices, emboldened by a full season on our farm, to show off and test their skills and style of farm management

Please send your resume, cover letter, and three references to hr@millcitygrows.org with the subject line "**Apprentice 2019**".

Mill City Grows is an equal opportunity employer. Mill City Grows especially encourages local residents to apply. Mill City Grows welcomes all interested people to apply, including People Of Color, all forms of gender identity and all religions and beliefs.