



Nourishing Communities from the Ground Up

Troy Community Farm is hiring a Crew Leader

We are looking for an experienced farm worker who is fast, enthusiastic, and able to motivate a crew. The crew leader will work in all aspects of our certified organic vegetable farm including field, sprout, and greenhouse production, as well as CSA and wholesale deliveries. The crew leader will supervise large and small groups, as well as work independently on specific farm tasks.

Schedule

The Crew Leader will start in March and work 30 hours per week through October. There is a possibility that the position will continue through the winter at a reduced number of hours. The required weekly schedule is Monday 7 to 3; Tuesday 8 to noon; Wednesday 7 to 3; and Friday 7 to 11. Additional hours will vary depending on the week and can include Thursday CSA delivery and farm stand from 2:30 to 7:00 PM; Friday wholesale delivery from 11 to 3 PM; and short weekend sprout and greenhouse shifts.

Compensation

Starting wage is \$9.00 to \$12.00 per hour.

This is an LTE (limited term) position with paid time off, but no health insurance.

Position Description and Qualifications

See the attached job description for details.

Apply

Submit a resume, cover letter, and three references to Claire Strader at claire@troygardens.org.

Application deadline is 7 February 2011.

About Troy Community Farm and Community GroundWorks

Troy Community Farm grows certified organic produce on Madison's Northside. Established in 2001, we are proud to be the city's first (and to date, only) urban farm. We serve 160 CSA members, an on-site farm stand, and several grocery stores throughout the city. Though we have a tractor for mowing and tillage, we use hand-scale techniques for planting, weeding, harvesting, and all other farm tasks. Each year we train 10 to 14 interns on the farm. We educate interns through hands-on learning as well as a weekly field tour, formal intern classes, an annual field trip, and other skill building activities.

The farm is a program of the non-profit organization Community GroundWorks. The mission of Community GroundWorks is to connect individuals with urban agricultural and natural lands within a diverse learning community. We grow wholesome and organic food for local tables, steward urban natural areas, inspire healthful eating, and offer hands-on opportunities for learning. By teaching what we practice, we provide the skills to build enduring communities. On the ground, Community GroundWorks stewards the 26 acres of Troy Gardens including the 5-acre farm as well as 4 acres of community gardens, 4 acres of restored prairie, a kids' garden, natural areas, and walking trails. Community GroundWorks also runs a teen farm with East High School, a vegetable landscaping business called Madison FarmWorks, and the vegetable garden at the capital.

Please see our website for more information about our organization: www.communitygroundworks.org



Job Description: Farm Crew Leader

Reports to: Farm Director

Purpose:

To assist farm staff in all aspects of certified organic vegetable, spout, herb, greenhouse, and flower production; farm marketing; and farm intern, worker share, and volunteer supervision.

Status:

Non-exempt position, generally 30 hours per week March through October (specifics dependant on funding.)

Essential Functions:

1. Farm Production

Troy Community Farm is a five-acre, certified organic, urban, vegetable farm. Farm production is the main focus of the Farm Crew Leader as consistently high-quality produce is the backbone of both our marketing and educational endeavors.

- Participate in all aspects of farm production from tillage and planting, to weed and pest control, to harvesting and packing on five acres of organic cropland.
- Participate in seedling and herb production in our passive solar greenhouse, including some daily greenhouse monitoring.
- Participate in and often take the lead on some aspects of sprout production including packaging and daily sprouting chores.
- Understand and follow all requirements for certified organic production.
- Understand and maintain all production and quality standards as determined by the Farm Director. Assist farm interns and volunteers in understanding and following those standards as well.

2. Marketing

The farm serves 160 CSA members, an on-site farm stand, and several wholesale accounts. Income earned through these markets is essential to the sustainability of the farm and Community GroundWorks.

- Assist with all aspects of CSA delivery, farm stand, and wholesale accounts as necessary, including staffing of the farm stand and making wholesale deliveries.

3. Supervision

There are many interns, worker shares, students, and volunteers who work at the farm every week. Worker supervision is an integral part of this job as it relates to farm production.

- Supervise interns, worker shares, students, and volunteers on field, harvest, sprout, and greenhouse tasks.

4. Additional Responsibilities

All Community GroundWorks staff work together for the success of the organization as a whole.

- Attend staff, board, and other relevant meetings as necessary.
- Lead tours, give classes, and assist with CGW events as necessary.
- Initiate and/or assist with fundraising for the organization through grant writing, donor communications, and other means including increasing farm sales.
- Take on additional tasks as directed by the Farm Director.

Qualifications:

- At least one year of experience working on a diversified organic vegetable farm.
- At least one year of experience supervising employees, interns, and/or volunteers.
- Ability to use computers, including experience with Microsoft word, excel, and internet communication programs.
- Ability to work quickly and carefully.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- Ability to lift and carry 50 pounds, repeatedly.
- Ability to bend, squat, and kneel for extended periods and to work outdoors regardless of weather and insects
- Valid Wisconsin drivers license and ability to drive a 14ft. box truck in Madison.
- Ability to follow through on commitments.
- Ability to handle multiple demands.