



**Greenhouse Grower
Spring 2016 Internship
March – May**

Growing Gardens' mission is to enrich the lives of our community through sustainable urban agriculture. We envision people experiencing a direct and deep connection with plants, the land and each other. Growing Gardens unites the Boulder County community through urban agriculture projects, such as: The Cultiva Youth Project (Ages 12 – 19), The Children's Peace Garden (Ages 4 – 10), Horticultural Therapy (Seniors and People with Disabilities), Fresh Food Families & Fitness, and The Community Gardens (General Public).

The focus of this internship will be to support the greenhouse production for all aspects of Growing Gardens' onsite programs. Greenhouse production consists of growing for all on site programs, our annual Plant Sale and donation program for low income individuals and families. Our programs reach a wide variety of populations. In addition to the growing needs of our programs, interns will be an integral part of training volunteers in working in the greenhouse and on site gardens. The Greenhouse Internship is dynamic, fast paced, and requires a great deal of focus and care. The magic of growing food for community is a powerful experience; come and be a part of the growing season at Growing Gardens.

Greenhouse and Market Grower Duties

- Assisting the Growers in all phases of plant growth:
 - seeding
 - transplanting
 - fertilizing
 - watering
 - cultivating
 - bed prep
 - pest control
 - record keeping
 - general tending and organizing
- Assist in maintaining contacts, inventory and record keeping
- Learn about organic gardening and its required skills
- Compile and update records
- Assist, teach and oversee volunteers and groups of volunteers with greenhouse tasks
- Help to care for the greenhouse one weekend a month

- Assist with Plant Sale production and be available to work 3 weekend Plant Sale shifts
- Gain an understanding of the Growing Gardens programs and their needs and contributions

Knowledge and Skills the Intern May Acquire

- Gain skills and understanding of organic food starts, heirloom tomatoes and veggies
- Small scale organic vegetable production techniques
- The ability to work in a team environment
- The ability to work in a dynamic environment: this includes being comfortable changing tasks, working/leading diverse groups and feeling confident with a diverse population
- Organic greenhouse practices, production methods and marketing
- Create positive atmosphere for the interaction of diverse populations
- Ability to organize work and volunteer groups
- Develop an ability to anticipate work and volunteer needs and gain the confidence needed to jump in and lead

Structure of Internship

Internship duration is March 1 – May 20, 2016

Intern position is 10-15 hours per week. Note: hours may vary between weeks; however the average number of hours per week will be 12 hours. Hours primarily take place during the week, however there is some required weekend work, especially during the month of May. To apply for this internship you MUST be available for either two, 4-hour morning shifts per week, or one full week day.

Intern will attend orientation meeting with all GG interns, mentor, supervisor and additional GG staff.

Intern will be working closely with a mentor from Growing Gardens' staff who will oversee all daily activities.

Interns will meet with GG mentor every other week for the duration of the contract.

Interns will meet with GG supervisor every other month for the duration of the contract.

Interns will attend 1 Staff Meeting during the season

Interns will have the opportunity to shadow all GG staff to learn about each program.

Learning Objectives Contract – Developed by second week of internship. This includes: position description, educational objectives, learning activities and skill development.

Evaluation – A midpoint evaluation and end of internship evaluation will include intern self evaluation, supervisor and mentor evaluation.

Benefits of Interning with Growing Gardens

- Experience working on and managing work groups in a commercial greenhouse setting
- Hands-on experience making a positive impact in the lives of children, teens and adults
- Friendly, relaxed environment
- Good experience; develops marketable teaching and group leading skills
- Classroom training offered through Growing Gardens classes

- Access to a wide variety of organic seeds and plant starts
- Possibility to garden in one of our raised beds at our Hawthorn Garden site
- Fresh vegetables from the garden as the season permits
- Garden is located with easy access to public transportation
- This internship qualifies for college credit.

Qualifications

We are looking for individuals who are passionate about learning how to grow food and community. The programs of Growing Gardens depend on the plants and food produced in the greenhouse and fields as earned income for our programs. The Greenhouse Grower must be responsible, dedicated and organized. While some growing experience is desired it is not required for this position. This experience is a great opportunity for someone interested in a job in horticulture, gardening, or community organizing.

To apply:

Applications are due by February 1, 2016 but will remain open until filled.

Send cover letter, completed application and resume to Lauren Richardson at lauren@growinggardens.org.