Vermont Community Garden Network
Community Teaching Garden Intern 2020

Length of internship: May 4 – October 16

Hours: 6-8 hours/week

Applicants must be available on CTG class days: Wednesday evenings from 4-8pm and one Saturday a month from 8:30am-12:30pm. Additional internship hours for team meetings, reporting, and garden maintenance activities can be scheduled with more flexibility.

Position Summary:
This is a full-season opportunity to gain practical experience in organic gardening and learn teaching techniques in the context of an educational garden. The CTG Intern will work closely with the Lead Instructor for the CTG Course to run a 6-month long organic gardening course for adults. This is a dynamic position to take on the responsibility of being both a teaching assistant to support the instructor and students, and a garden assistant to maintain our educational garden site. A full-season commitment is required, with variable weekly hours reflecting garden needs and class activities.

Primary Duties:
- Assist the CTG Lead Instructor to prepare materials and tidy up after weekly garden classes
- Participate in various hands-on gardening activities including seeding, transplanting, watering, harvesting, mulching, weeding, and pest management
- Participate in garden site maintenance tasks such as shed cleanup, tool inventories, and signage
- Facilitate garden work days for students and occasional volunteers
- Maintain garden logs by capturing data in the garden and recording information in an office setting
- Document the course through photographs, social media posts, and monthly blog contributions

Skills & Qualifications:
- Interest in organic farming/gardening, community-based gardening, food systems, experiential education
- Prior hands-on experience in organic vegetable, flower, and/or herb gardening is preferred
- Familiarity and active engagement with social media (Facebook, Instagram, Wordpress blogs)
- Willingness to work outside and do physical work in all weather conditions
- Able and willing to work independently, as well as in partnership with program staff
- Ability to be flexible due to shifting needs of the program, students, and garden
- Willingness to take initiative and motivation to seek new learning opportunities
- Strong work ethic and ability to interact with the public in a professional and courteous manner

Compensation: $500 stipend upon completion of internship. Students from accredited academic institutions may be able to receive academic credit.
Applications due: February 14, 2020
Candidates will be interviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. We encourage early applicants!

To learn more about the Community Teaching Garden Course that this internship position would be supporting, please visit our website and the CTG blog.

To apply, please email a cover letter, resume, and a professional reference to:
Carolina Lukac, Garden Education Manager
Vermont Community Garden Network
carolina@vcgn.org
(802) 861-4769

The Vermont Community Garden Network’s (VCGN) mission is to cultivate well-being by helping people of all ages grow food, build confidence, and connect with each other. We work with people in communities across Vermont to grow gardens where they live, work, learn and play, establishing and sustaining thriving gardens based on local solutions. We mobilize through community organizing, training, planning support, project funding, and hands-on garden education.

What do past Interns say about their experience with VCGN?
“I now understand the importance of community gardening not only as a means to help re-localize the food system but as a genuine source of community. The welcoming environment and joy that came from joining with others in a garden is a truly beautiful one.”

“Every day in gardens brought the opportunity to play so many different roles - teacher, gardener, student, camp counselor, chef, friend - and with that came so much learning and growth.”

“The connections I made within VCGN and outside are some that I hope I can maintain for the rest of my life and I cannot put into words how grateful I am for that. This organization changes lives with their gardens and I don’t hesitate to say that it changed mine this summer.”