

Vinegar Flats Community Farm

In-Season Farm Coordinator

The Vinegar Flats Community Farm operates a 1/3 acre vegetable, herb and berry garden in a semi-urban space in Spokane, WA. The farm has been in operation since 2001 and is located alongside Latah Creek on prime bottomland managed for agricultural use for decades. Vinegar Flats is a non-profit initiative of St. Margaret's Women and Children's shelter advocating for food justice in the Inland Northwest. With the farm serving as the centerpiece of the program, the initiative helps make healthy food more affordable and accessible through the development of urban and local food systems. The farm is supervised by the Farm Coordinator and two other staff persons. Volunteer involvement and participation by St. Margaret's clientele, with a focus on vocational and job-skills training programs, are a key component of program management. Production follows organic and human-scale values and serves as a model of urban commercial-scale production.

The Farm Coordinator position is responsible for the hands-on coordination of production of food crops and management of the garden as a positive community-space. This role includes working with the Program Coordinator in determining cropping and cultivation plans, day-to-day supervision and implementation of tasks and projects, management of production from seed to sale, including coordination of harvest and distribution for one farmers' market, CSA deliveries and various donations and distribution of produce. The Farm Coordinator will work closely with the Volunteer Coordinator in oversight and support of vocational trainees and volunteers, and will have the opportunity to provide educational support to all visitors of the farm.

The position for 2013 is seasonal, running April through October, but strong preference will be given to candidates interested in multiple seasons serving in this management role.

The position is best suited for individuals with one or more seasons of experience working at a commercial farm or similar outfit as a farm-hand, intern, or in a management position. One goal of the position is to offer an individual with some experience in agricultural production and a strong interest in ultimately managing their own operation an opportunity to take a management role within a small-scale and growth-promoting environment. The Farm Coordinator will have the opportunity to learn and employ established practices as well as to innovate and implement new efficiencies and strategies.

Requirements:

- Exceptional capacity as a communicator, with an emphasis on leadership through management and delegation.
- Experience working in a leadership role within a team setting.
- Some experience with commercial agricultural production, preferably with vegetables, low-tech season extension, organic soil management, drip irrigation, farmers' markets and CSA direct marketing.
- Willingness to work flexible hours due to volunteer groups, in variable weather and in accordance with

work load

-The ability to work a full day of physical labor and the capacity to lift 50 lbs.

Compensation:

\$12.50/hr for 20 hrs per week, mid-April thru mid-October.