

edible garden project

NORTH SHORE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

URBAN FARM VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP POSITION

Position: Urban Farm Volunteer Internship Opportunity

Organization: North Shore Neighbourhood House, at the Edible Garden Project's Loutet Farm and Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden

Location: [North Vancouver](#), British Columbia

Term: 8 to 12 hours per week, April – October 2017

Application deadline: April 14th

Position Description:

The North Shore Neighbourhood House (NSNH) is a charitable organization that has been operating on the North Shore for over 75 years. We believe working together to meet the grassroots needs of our neighbours, especially our most vulnerable residents, is essential to building a safe, healthy and strong community. At the NSNH, we value access to good fresh food and we are proud to be a regional leader in food security initiatives with our Edible Garden Project (EGP).

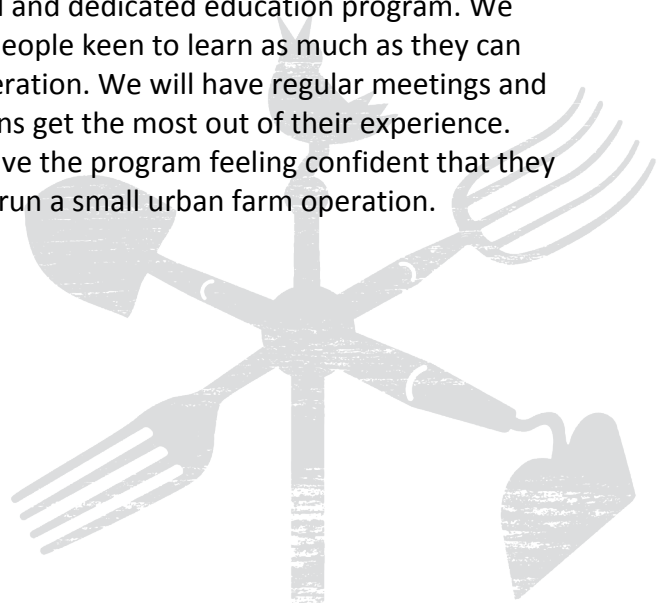
The EGP operates a number of programs across the North Shore, including our social enterprise urban farms – Loutet Farm and the Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden. Urban Farm Volunteer Interns will assist the EGP Farm team in running a busy, dynamic urban market garden. The EGP Farms (Loutet and Sutherland) are run as a social enterprise, meaning we strive to be a successful urban farm enterprise in all aspects, while also serving as a model of local sustainable food production and providing hands-on learning opportunities to the community. Volunteer Interns will have the opportunity to learn all aspects of the enterprise, including farm management, volunteer coordination, community outreach, and education.

This is an unpaid volunteer position. Volunteer Interns will have access to beautiful produce grown onsite along with a structured and dedicated education program. We are not looking simply for labourers, but for people keen to learn as much as they can about running a successful urban farming operation. We will have regular meetings and schedule weekly tasks so that volunteer interns get the most out of their experience. Our hope is that our volunteer interns will leave the program feeling confident that they have a solid base of understanding in how to run a small urban farm operation.

What You'll Experience/Participate In:

Planning/Prep (April-May):

- Composting
- Bed preparation
- Soil testing
- Crop planning
- Building new beds/cropping area



- Setting up cloches and low tunnels for early season starts
- Seeding/Propagation (April-Aug):
- Seeding to plug trays in our new seedling greenhouse (propagating starts to sell to the
- Community and other enterprises is an important part of our business)
- Ongoing watering, maintenance, potting up, organization, record keeping in seedling greenhouse
- Direct crop seeding in the field (in-line seeder and hand broadcast)

Crop and field maintenance (April-October):

- Weeding, thinning, pruning, transplanting, watering, adding amendments
- Composting
- Harvest prep: cleaning, trimming, weighing, bunching, bagging, storing

Harvesting and marketing (May-October):

- Assisting at our very busy 2x per week on-site farm gate market table (this is our main marketing channel)
- Preparing orders for restaurants/retail. Making deliveries. Maintaining relationships with chefs/clients
- Helping to develop ideas for a small Community Shared Agriculture/Harvest Box program

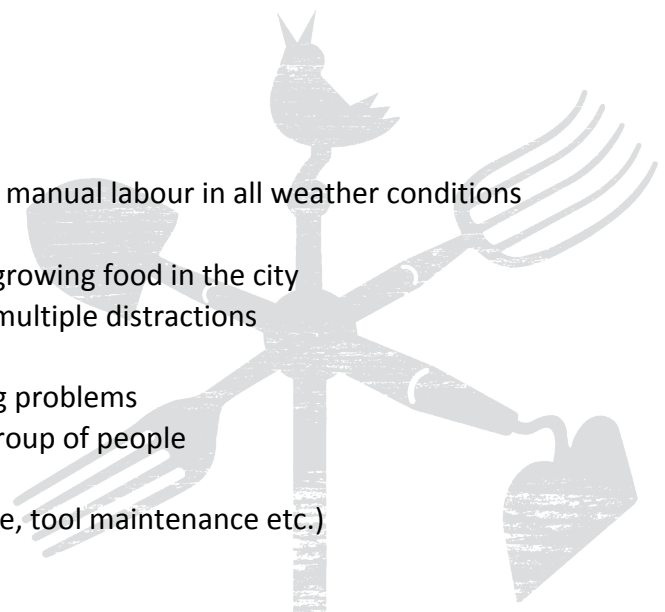
Community Outreach (ongoing):

- Chatting/answering questions at market, at community events, and “over the fence”.
- Learning to be an ambassador for urban farming and local, sustainable food
- Helping to coordinate volunteers at community workbees and other volunteer events
- Helping lead tours and educate school children in our Strong Roots program

What We’re Looking For:

Ideally you will possess these attributes:

- Experience and willingness to do hard manual labour in all weather conditions
- Able to safely lift at least 50 pounds
- Self motivated and passionate about growing food in the city
- Ability to stay on task while handling multiple distractions
- Capable of taking direction
- Capable of taking initiative and solving problems
- Comfortable working with a diverse group of people
- Outgoing and friendly with the public
- Attention to detail (organized farm site, tool maintenance etc.)



- Organizational skills (record-keeping, planning, managing schedules, e-mail, etc)
- Excitement about learning urban farming skills in a fast-paced, hands-on environment
- An excellent sense of humour

Assets:

- Basic construction skills
- Experience directing volunteers
- Basic horticultural skills
- Experience with outdoor/experiential education
- Foodsafe Certification

Application Process:

Please apply with resume and one-page cover letter, explaining what makes you passionate about urban farming and about this volunteer internship. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Completion of a Criminal Record Check is required.

We are recruiting a maximum of five (5) interns for the 2017 season.

Learn more about Loutet Farm and the EGP at: <http://www.ediblegardenproject.com>

Submit Your Application:

Email Subject Line: Volunteer Internship Application – YOUR NAME

Cover Letter and Resume: Please send as one PDF document, 3 page maximum (1 page cover letter, 2 page resume) with this file name: FIRST NAME_LAST NAME_Vol_Intern_App

Email to: farmer@ediblegardenproject.com by April 14th at midnight

We look forward to your application!

