

## **Civic Garden Center Internship**

Civic Garden Center, 2715 Reading Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513 221 0981, [civicgardencenter.org](http://civicgardencenter.org)

The Civic Garden Center's mission is to build community through gardening. We are a horticulture resource that educates those interested in gardening through classes, tours, and youth programming. Our grounds include four acres of urban gardens including ornamentals, herbs, ornamental edibles, shade gardens, bio-swales, and green roofs. We house OSU Extension's Horticulture Help-line and the Hauck Horticulture Library.

The Civic Garden Center is deeply committed to the idea that education is empowerment. While we help neighborhoods build gardens, it is important to us that our gardeners know not only gardening skills, but community engagement principles and are able to autonomously maintain the social and biological health of their gardens. Our Community Garden Development Training program – a twelve week training program for prospective neighborhood gardeners – is the prototype for community garden training programs for the American Community Garden Association.

In the same philosophy, the children who visit our gardens – whether through Compost Kids field trips, Summer Sprouts drop-in garden programs, or school visits – learn gardening, cooking and social skills through hands-on experiences. Children build a foundation for future gardening knowledge through inquiry-based activities.

For the summer, we are looking to hire 2 interns – one Garden and one Youth Education Intern. Our goal for these internships is to immerse interns in gardening, community engagement, and outdoor education theories and practices. We believe that graduates of this internship program will become an asset to the Greater Cincinnati gardening community. As part of this process, it is important that interns bring their own interest to integrate into their gardening experience at the Civic Garden Center. The Civic Garden Center wishes to collaborate with interns to meet our collective goals.

### **Position Description**

Civic Garden Center Interns will have hands-on field experiences with Civic Garden Center staff in the interns' interest area. They will attend weekly classes with other interns on gardening, community engagement, and child-development. Classes will include field walks to identify pests, pollinators, plants, and water patterns, visits to like organizations, and in-classroom lectures and discussions led by Civic Garden Center staff. In addition, interns will have an opportunity to work on a summer-long project of their choosing. This project should be based on the intern's own interest (artistic, research, construction, etc.) and serve the Civic Garden Center's goals.

### **Benefits**

- \$8 per hour
- One full week of orientation training
- A free community garden plot for the summer
- Research access through the Horticulture Library
- Access to professional educators, horticulturalists, and community organizers
- Course credit

## Expectations

### Youth Education Intern

Begin Date: Tuesday, June 5, 2012

End Date: Sunday, August 26, 2012

This position is approximately 25 hrs per week. Interns will lead in garden activities, maintain educational gardens, lead volunteer groups attend classes, prepare lessons and work on a summer-long individual project.

- Attend weekly classes on Tuesdays
- Research garden lessons for children
- Lead children in garden activities
- Maintain Children's Gardens with Youth Education Coordinator
- Lead volunteers
- Keep attendance and lessons records
- Implement a summer-long project
- Perform various tasks as needed like attending events, leading groups, and representing the Civic Garden Center at education and garden-related meetings with community partners

### Garden Intern

Begin Date: Tuesday, June 5, 2012

End Date: the week of August 20, 2012

This position is 25 hrs per week. Interns will spend the majority of their time maintaining gardens with a Civic Garden Center staff person.

- Attend weekly classes on Tuesdays
- Maintain ornamental and vegetable gardens with a Civic Garden Center staff person (mow lawns, set up rain barrels, mild construction, weed, water, manage compost, etc.)
- Lead volunteer groups
- Keep garden records including plant dates, garden conditions, etc.
- Implement a summer-long project
- Perform various tasks as needed like attending events, leading groups, and representing the Civic Garden Center at education and garden-related meetings with community partners

## Qualifications

### Personal

- Interested in gardening and community engagement
- Experience working with people
- Excellent inter-personal skills and communication skills
- Self-motivated and self-aware
- Able to work as a team and independently
- Must be willing to learn how to use power tools safely
- Gardening experience is not necessary but is a plus

### Physical

- Must be able to lift 50 lbs
- Must be tolerant of heat and working outdoors for extended periods of time
- Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record

Please send a cover letter including personal goals for the summer and resume by mail or email to Madeline Dorger by **Friday, April 6**. **Note: Applicants will be accepted on a rolling basis. The due date is the last day to get the applications in, but the sooner we receive applications the better.**

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Youth Education Coordinator  
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