



Join our team!

Department: Horticulture

Job Title: Vegetable Garden Specialist

Supervisor: Lead Horticulturist

Employee Status: Non-exempt, full-time, seasonal

Pay Rate: \$12.00 and up DOE

Assigned Work Location: Vegetable Garden and IBG Grounds

Description:

The Vegetable Garden Specialist manages the 1.5-acre Vegetable Garden at the Idaho Botanical Garden (IBG). This position works with the IBG Horticulture Department to create a dynamic, high quality edible landscape and corresponding plant collection for the purpose of public education.

Areas of Responsibility/Essential Duties:

- Performs a wide range of maintenance tasks vital to the preservation and protection of annual and perennial living collections; including but not limited to soil preparation, planting, mulching, weeding, watering, composting, irrigation, and pesticide and fertilizer application.
- May work as a member of a crew with other staff or volunteers or individually. Assignments are received verbally and/or in writing from the Lead Horticulturist.
- Follows crop planting and propagation calendars to ensure seasonal availability of produce to guests for educational and philanthropic purposes under direction of Assistant Horticulture Director.
- Manages harvest and tracks crop yield. Facilitates produce donation program.
- Works with Irrigation Technician to manage irrigation program schedule for the Vegetable Garden.
- Work with IPM Manager to implement plant health management program on a timely basis.
- Works with Greenhouse & Nursery Coordinator to propagate crops for transplanting and occasional sales.
- Manages active and passive compost systems and generates frequent compost outputs.
- Must be able to coach and direct volunteers through a variety of horticulture tasks.
- Conducts classes related to food gardening and urban agriculture on occasion.
- Must be able to assume responsibility for following all guidelines related to safety, equipment operation, and maintenance tasks.
- Establishes and meets task completion schedules on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.
- Demonstrates accuracy and thoroughness; looks for ways to improve and promote quality of horticulture and educational experience; applies feedback to improve performance; monitors own work to ensure quality.
- Interacts with guests visiting the Vegetable Garden, including impromptu teaching interactions.

Interpersonal Skills and Disposition:

- Possesses a warm, patient, service-oriented demeanor while interacting and working in close proximity to garden guests. Must answer a variety of questions regarding crop and backyard food production.
- Behaves and communicates in a manner that promotes and fosters a culture of teamwork and cooperation with internal and external customers.
- Focuses on solving conflict; approaches others in a tactful manner; accepts responsibility for own actions; follows through on commitments; remains open to new ideas and approaches.

- Volunteers readily; undertakes self-development activities; seeks increased responsibilities; takes independent actions and calculated risks; looks for and takes advantage of opportunities; asks for and offers help as needed.
- Possesses a self-motivated and creative disposition.

Required Skills, Knowledge, and Training:

- Ability to use computers for tasks such as email correspondence and calendar scheduling within Microsoft Suite.
- **At least two years of experience** in routine vegetable cropping or food garden maintenance working with a professional gardening, horticulture, landscaping or agriculture operation.
- A valid Idaho driver's license and clean driving record.
- Ability to pass a background check.

Preferred Skills, Knowledge and Training

- Associate or Bachelor degree in Horticulture, Agriculture or related field.
- Five years of professional experience in the horticulture or agriculture field.
- Knowledge of responsible power-tool and equipment use, such as string trimmers, mowers, blowers, and sprayers.
- Proven interpersonal and teaching skills with adults and children.

Conclusion

It is understood that this job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the job and the general nature and level of work performed by the Horticulturist within this job, but this job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of qualifications, skills, efforts, duties, responsibilities or working conditions associated with the position.

Email cover letter and resumes to sierra@idahobotanicalgarden.org by March 15th, 2020

Subject Line: "Vegetable Garden Specialist"



IDAHO BOTANICAL GARDEN