



Seasonal Farmer – Position Posting (12-2020)

Summary

Willowsford Conservancy is an integral part of the Willowsford community, located in Aldie and Ashburn, Virginia. A non-profit established in 2011, the Conservancy is the steward of 2,200 acres of open space. Its mission is to support "...the viable, long-term use of the land, integrating farming, recreation, conservation, and education to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Willowsford and the greater community."

As part of Willowsford Conservancy, **Willowsford Farm** manages approximately 18 acres for vegetable, herb, fruit, and flower production, including high tunnels for winter production. The farm spans three properties, with over 300 acres under the team's management. The farm is well equipped with machinery, equipment, and facilities, using mechanization to be as efficient as possible. The farm grows certified organic produce and raises eggs on pasture. Products are sold through CSA memberships, local wholesale outlets, and online channels. The Farm team is committed to the mission of Willowsford Conservancy and embraces the community's values and goals.

Willowsford Conservancy helps residents connect with food, the land, and each other through the Farm and CSA, education and recreation programs, and sustainable land management practices. The Farm's primary goal is to provide high-quality, sustainably grown produce. Planned production for 2021 includes 400 CSA vegetable shares, 150 winter vegetable shares, and 450 laying hens.

Reporting to the Farm Manager, the Seasonal Farmer will work closely with a team of year-round and seasonal farmers. If desired and appropriate, the Seasonal Farmer may have opportunity to specialize in an area of the operation, i.e., management of greenhouse operations, irrigation, cultivation, or laying hens.

Qualifications and Experience

Minimum:

- Hard working and strong communicator
- Self-directed, and willing to accept and utilize feedback and instruction
- Problem solver, creative thinker, and team player
- Proficient with computers, mobile devices and commonly used software
- Valid driver's license and good driving record
- Must be able to comfortably lift and/or move 50lbs and work outdoors in all types of weather
- Must be authorized to work in the U.S.

Desired:

- Experience in organic vegetable production with CSA emphasis
- Experience safely operating farm equipment, including tractors, tillage equipment, cultivation equipment, mowers, and other powered equipment.
- Experience working with pastured laying hens

Primary Responsibilities

Farm Production

- Assist with tasks related to field production of organically produced vegetables including seeding, transplant production, planting, cultivation, irrigation, harvesting, and post-harvest handling to meet production goals and assure high product quality
- Operate farm equipment and machinery in a safe and efficient manner
- Assist with daily poultry chores, including coop maintenance, pasture management, egg collection

CSA

- Assist with harvest, preparation, packing, and distribution of CSA shares, ensuring food quality and food safety standards are met
- Positively represent the Conservancy through customer interactions and product quality

Work Environment and Physical Demands

- This position predominantly works in the field in all weather conditions and all times of the year, and requires heavy lifting and physical exertion, driving and walking in uneven terrain, operating land management equipment, and working for extended periods in rugged outdoor conditions. Weekend & extended hours are required during the growing season.

Season

- This is a full-time (40+ hours/week), seasonal position from April through November.

Compensation

- Hourly at \$15-17/hour, depending on experience. Access to fresh produce, eggs, and discounted partner products. Housing stipend is available to qualified applicants.

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to farm@willowsfordfarm.com. Open until filled.