



Job Description - Urban Farmer
Raleigh City Farm

Reports to: Raleigh City Farm Board of Directors

Purpose: Raleigh City Farm, an urban farm start-up located in downtown Raleigh, seeks a farm manager to guide the development and production of our first plot of land.

Background Information

Mission Statement: Raleigh City Farm transforms unexpected downtown spaces into beautiful and nourishing farmland. We engage city dwellers in the process of growing food, sparking imaginations about agriculture in the city. These highly-visible spaces will be an educational tool to demonstrate responsible, intensive growing techniques as we move toward a restorative, community-based food system.

Key Responsibilities:

- set up and manage basic farm elements (compost, gardens, animals, etc.)
- prepare and implement an organic growing plan that produces desirable produce and farm products for sale year round; determine types of crops to be raised, according to market conditions, soil conditions, etc.
- grow high-quality marketable crops; plan, till, plant, manage fertility, cultivate, and harvest
- coordinate sales of produce and products,
- manage, train and supervise interns and volunteer work on the farm,
- work with design firm and local community on site designer and farm layout,
- ensure farm activities adhere to safety regulations and standards,
- maintain financial, operational, production, and volunteer records as appropriate, and
- serve as a liaison for the non-profit project.

The ideal candidate:

- Utilizes small spaces effectively to produce significant quantities of produce
- Achieves an aesthetically pleasing farm, emphasizing the beauty of production
- Takes an innovative and resourceful approach
- Understands local growing conditions, plant varieties, and season extension techniques
- Is an educator at heart, supporting Raleigh citizens as we learn more about growing food in the city
- Is familiar with urban agriculture
- Is part of the regional and statewide local food network

Desired Candidate Experience:

- Has managed a commercial farming operation of 1 acre or more
- Has operated a small farm for at least 5 years
- Has experience managing interns and/or volunteers
- Has experimented with a variety of growing methods and technologies
- Has worked in the Piedmont region of North Carolina and understands nuances of local production
- Holds BS in Agriculture and/or Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture or equivalent.

Timeframe:

The farm manager will support infrastructure development (winter 2011) to be prepared for full 2012 growing season. This is a full-time position with a minimum of 55-60 hours during summer months expected.

Compensation and benefits to be discussed. Pay range: \$25,000 - \$35,000.

Raleigh City Farm is a new not-for-profit corporation, with 501c3 status pending. We have rezoned and leased 1.3 acres at the corner of Blount and Franklin Streets in downtown Raleigh as our first plot. Our fall 2011 priorities in addition to hiring a farm manager are fundraising and site design. The farm manager's salary is contingent upon successful fundraising.

Application process:

Please send the following documents to laura@raleighcityfarm.org:

- resume, including three references
- brief cover letter (1-2) pages that discusses your relevant experience, agricultural philosophy, and how you would approach managing the farm in its first year
- sample crop plans or business plans and/or farm photos (optional and highly encouraged)

We will review applications and interview a selection of potential candidates by phone and/on site. Please allow several weeks for a response. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Position open until filled. Background check will be required.