Sprout City Farms Seasonal Apprentice Description

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Sprout City Farms (SCF) is looking for an individual able to play an integral role in helping realize its mission and vision: to cultivate educational urban farms that engage and strengthen communities, and establish a network of accessible farms throughout the city that nourish, and are nourished by, their surrounding community.

About Sprout City Farms: SCF is an urban agriculture nonprofit, founded in 2010 in response to growing interest in utilizing social and physical resources to create healthier, more resilient local food communities. Since then, SCF has successfully transformed 3.5 acres of underutilized urban land into fertile ground that produces 14 tons of healthy food annually and nourishes thousands of people in the metro-Denver community. So far, we have built:

- the Denver Green School (DGS) Community Farm, a 1-acre organic vegetable farm on the grounds of the Denver Green School, built in partnership with Denver Public Schools in 2011,
- the Mountair Park (MAP) Community Farm, a 1.5-acre organic vegetable farm on the grounds of Mountair Park, built in partnership with the City of Lakewood in 2014,
- the Dahlia Campus Community Farm, a 1-acre organic vegetable farm at the Dahlia Campus for Health and Well-Being, built in partnership with the Mental Health Center of Denver from 2015-17; this site is now managed by MHCD as of fall 2018.

*About Mountair Park Community Farm: MAP is located at the corner of 13th & Depew St. in NE Lakewood. The farm produced more than 6 tons of food in its fifth year (2018) and continues to grow in size. Food is distributed through a 60-share CSA program, weekly Farm Stands, and donations to local food relief partners.*

*About Denver Green School Community Farm: DGS is located in the SE corner of the schoolyard at 6700 E. Virginia Ave. in SE Denver. The farm, now in its 9th year, produces an average of 4-5 tons of food each season, which is distributed through a Farm to Cafeteria program, on-site youth-run farm stand, 55-share CSA program, and donations to the school food pantry and backpack program.*

Educational and community programs at both sites include internships and apprenticeships, volunteer days, farm to classroom, field trips, tours, workshops, cooking demonstrations, and various social events throughout the year.

In 2020, we are seeking two apprentices to help implement operations and programs at MAP and DGS (1 apprentice per site) under the direction of each site’s Farm Manager. This is a great opportunity for individuals with a little experience interested in being more involved in sustainable farming and local food production and/or aiming to develop their skill set while moving toward full-time employment in the field.

**Desired skills and qualifications:**

1. Farming experience (1+ full seasons) or successful completion of the SCF Internship Program.
2. Experience managing volunteers and working with children, and comfortable teaching and speaking in front of people.
3. Ability to physically work within a variety of conditions (i.e. endurance to work long days, in diverse weather
conditions), and ability to lift at least 40 pounds.

4. Ability to work as a team player, with people from diverse backgrounds including students/youth, people of different cultures, etc.

5. Willingness to take initiative and follow-through on tasks. Pragmatic and outcome-driven, yet positive and forward thinking.

6. Punctuality and flexible availability including working some weekends and nights.

7. Passion for helping develop a more sustainable and just local food system.

8. Preference will go to local residents rooted in the metro-Denver community

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Assist in planting, cultivating, maintaining, and harvesting crops and with general farm maintenance.

2. Assist with farm distribution programs such as CSA, Farm Stand, Farm to Cafeteria, Donations, other food distribution programs, and community service programs & events.

3. Help ensure that the farm and its programs are staying true to SCF's Mission, Vision and Core Values.

4. Adhere to SCF training in employee manual and food safety plan, and meet all necessary volunteer requirements of SCF (including background checks: see Volunteer Packet).

5. Assist in developing and maintaining farm-based educational and volunteer programs such as volunteer days, workshops, tours, farm camp, and other programs and events.

6. Assist with recordkeeping, data entry and recording.

Time Commitment

25 hours per week including some nights and weekends throughout the growing season (April 1 – November 1). Apprentices must be dedicated for the entire growing season. This position is paid through biweekly stipends totaling $7,500 for the season, and apprentices receive a share in the CSA program valued at $475+. Requests for time off must be submitted for approval. Approval of requests is dependent upon staff schedule coordination, and the needs of the organization.
Contact:

To apply, please fill out the Apprentice Application found on our website and submit a .pdf of the application, resume, and 2 references by February 25th, 2020 to:

Meg Caley, Sprout City Farms Co-Founder and Executive Director

Email: apply@sproutcityfarms.org

Mail: P.O. Box 7536, Denver, CO 80207

For more information on SCF, please visit our website at www.sproutcityfarms.org and our facebook page at www.facebook.com/SproutCityFarms.

*Sprout City Farms follows an equal opportunity employment policy and employs personnel without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligations, marital status, transgender status, gender identity, ancestry, gender, political service, affiliation or disability.

This policy applies to all Sprout City Farms employees, volunteers, members, clients, and contractors. This policy also applies to internal promotions, training, opportunities for advancement, terminations, outside vendors, members and customers, service clients, use of contractors and consultants, and dealings with the general public.*