



# Backyard Growers High School Internship Summer 2018

Join Backyard Growers to help grow urban vegetable gardens and connect our community to healthy food!

## Our Mission

Backyard Growers (BYG) is a grassroots organization helping to reshape Gloucester's relationship with food and healthy eating. We provide resources and support to establish vegetable gardens at homes, housing communities, organizations, and schools, and provide learning opportunities in growing and preparing fresh produce in order to create life-long gardeners inspired by the power of growing and eating one's own food. BYG serves low- to moderate-income residents and public school children in Gloucester, and shares our program models regionally through a consulting practice in order to expand the scope of our work.

## Job Description:

This position highlights the following skill sets: community organizing, K-6 garden-based education, and organic gardening. Interns will begin by shadowing BYG staff and helping with tasks across our Backyard, Community, and School Programs. After this training period, high school interns will be paired with college-aged interns to focus on a specific project for the remainder of the summer.

## Possible projects include:

- **Riverdale Grown** : Riverdale Community Garden is a 16-raised-bed garden in the Riverdale Park neighborhood. Interns at this garden will help with weekly hands-on activities to engage neighborhood youth in planting, harvesting, and maintaining the garden. Additionally, interns will help run a weekly market stand, distributing garden produce to the Riverdale Park residents, with the help of the neighborhood youth.
- **Willowood Grown** : Willowood Community Garden is a brand new 14-raised-bed garden in the Willowood Gardens neighborhood. Interns at this garden will help with the completion of the garden site, planting its first season of vegetables, and beginning youth programming based on the Riverdale Grown project.
- **School Gardens** : Throughout the summer, interns will support our staff to care for and maintain the school gardens, as well as help plan and lead a two week middle school program.
- **Family Supper Kids Garden** : Backyard Growers manages a 12-raised-bed garden at The Open Door, a local hunger relief organization. Every week, interns will work with The Open Door staff to help harvest and prepare vegetables from the garden for their Family Supper program. In addition, they will help lead weekly hands-on activities during Family Supper to engage kids in the garden.



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## Additional Responsibilities:

- Attend mandatory BYG Intern training
- Work directly with program participants, school children, and volunteers
- Help maintain project-specific organizational records and documents
- Work with BYG staff and interns in the BYG school and community gardens including planting, trellising, weeding, and harvesting vegetables and additional upkeep as it arises
- Work with BYG interns to plan and lead garden activities, tastings, and markets at school and community programs
- Assist with program logistics (placing orders, doing errands, buying supplies, prep work)
- Assist with garden workdays, workshops, and trainings as available

## Requirements:

- Between 14 and 17 years
- An innovative self-starter with problem solving skills, creativity, ambition, and strong work ethic
- Enjoys working with children and diverse community members
- Basic computer skills – Microsoft Word & Excel, email, internet, and social media
- Ability to lift 50 pounds
- Knowledge of organic gardening and/or farming a plus
- Knowledge of Gloucester neighborhoods and communities a plus

High school interns report to the Community Programs Manager.

**Timeline:** July- August 2018- flexible hours

**Internship Type:** Unpaid Internship

**Location:** Gloucester, Massachusetts.

To apply, please send a resume and interest letter to [community@backyardgrowers.org](mailto:community@backyardgrowers.org) with "High School Internship" as the subject line.