Food Forest Builder/Landscaper

Hours: Full Time, 6-Month Contract
Location: Boston, MA, mix of in-person and virtual/remote
Compensation: $27,000 (for 6 months), plus a benefits package (see below)

Job Description

Reporting to the Director of Community Engagement & New Food Forest Construction, the Food Forest Builder/Landscaper is a full time 6-month contract role that serves in a critical building and coordination role for Boston Food Forest Coalition (BFFC). The position has the possibility of being promoted to a full-time hire. This position is directly responsible for installing and maintaining a variety of edible and ecological landscapes in the Boston area.

BFFC is in an entrepreneurial stage of learning and growth in a cutting-edge field, with clear priorities centering diversity, equity, and inclusion. This requires all staff to think creatively, collaboratively, and with an action mindset.

Responsibilities

Build Food Forests & Maintain Existing Food Forests:

- Create new food forests and maintain existing food forests using a combination of edible, useful, and native plants and local materials (e.g., create stone dust pathways, construct platforms, plant perennial plants, repair and remediate soil, construct garden boxes, compost systems, drip irrigation, and solar lighting, etc).
- Be an enthusiastic advocate to neighbors about ecological and edible landscaping techniques.
- Manage subcontractors to deliver on-time, on-budget work to supplement food forest development (e.g., building benches and tables, architecture design), etc.
- Show up to work on-time, well rested and ready for demanding physical labor.
- Work cooperatively with members of your team.
- Ability to follow instructions of the project leader and proactively ask for clarity.
- Work quickly and thoughtfully to accomplish tasks safely and on-time.
- Willingness to learn new skills and share your skills with others.
This is a new role for Boston Food Forest Coalition, so the right candidate must be willing to take on other responsibilities as this role and the organization evolve.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- At least 2 years of field experience in landscaping, farming, gardening, and/or construction.
- Permaculture and/or ecological landscape design and implementation experience is a plus!
- Experience writing proposals and making estimates for repairs.
- Experience with teen or adult garden education or teaching hands-on workshops (optional).
- Action-oriented with a flexible and adaptable style.
- Excellent organizational skills and capacity to prioritize and manage time well, with strong attention to detail.
- Ability to work as a self-starter without oversight, and as a team player who productively engages with others within and outside the organization.
- Ability and desire to learn and grow in new situations and from mistakes; actively integrates feedback to improve.
- Experience proactively communicating goals and updates, and eliciting input from various stakeholders.
- Familiar with using web browsers and Google suite tools (Gmail, Google Docs, Google Sheets), or similar with willingness to learn Google suite.
- Knowledge of Boston’s urban agriculture sector is a plus!

Benefits*

- Salary: $27,000, for a 6-Month Contract
- Health Insurance
- 20 days Personal Time Off for the contract period (includes: holidays, sick days, and vacation)
- Professional development stipend
• Cell phone and laptop stipend
  *BFFC is committed to internal equity for salary and benefits and therefore does not negotiate compensation.

Location

• This is a Boston, Massachusetts-based position that will require daily travel to food forest construction sites in Boston neighborhoods.
• The position will mostly be in-person on food forests sites, but will also include some office work.
• We ask all staff to abide by COVID-19 guidance set by the City of Boston.

Apply

• Please submit a cover letter detailing your qualifications for this position, along with a resume to: hiring@bostonfoodforest.org.
• The email subject line must read: Your First & Last Name - Food Forest Builder/Landscaper.
• We will begin to review applications on April 11th, 2022 and will accept applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled.
• We will review all submissions, identify viable candidates, and contact only those individuals selected to continue in the search process.

Boston Food Forest Coalition is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We actively seek a diverse pool of candidates for this position.

About Boston Food Forest Coalition

At the intersection of racial equity and climate resilience, the Boston Food Forest Coalition is a community of neighbors transforming vacant lots into public edible parks placed into permanent community control and ownership. Together, we are building resilience in Boston through more equitable access to healthy green space and greater connection to each other and the natural world. More information about BFFC is available on our website: https://bostonfoodforest.org/.