

## SEASONAL FARM HAND

*FSLA Status: part-time (a maximum of 30 hours per week),  
non-exempt employee*

Reports to: Farm Manager

Ideal Start Date: May 29, 2024 - Oct 1, 2024



Project GROWS is a nonprofit educational farm in Augusta County, Virginia with the mission to grow a healthy community by connecting all people to nutritious foods. Our farm stewards a healthy ecosystem that yields nutrient-dense food as well as providing beautiful, engaging natural spaces that promote self-discovery and joy. We provide experiential, hands-on education through summer camps, in-school activities and mentorship programs. Our team also manages multiple farmers markets that improve food security and contribute to our local food economy. We envision a world with an equitable food system where everyone has the access and knowledge to choose, grow, and enjoy foods that support a healthy life. To learn more, please visit [www.projectgrows.org](http://www.projectgrows.org).

### Objectives

The Seasonal Farm Hand will directly assist the Farm Manager & Farm Assistant with all aspects of fruit and vegetable production - from seed to table - at Project GROWS' 10 acre farm in order to support the organization's food access and education programs. The Seasonal Farm Hand will foster an inclusive and welcoming environment while leading and working alongside small and large groups of staff, youth, and volunteers. The Seasonal Farm Hand will function as a core member of the Project GROWS team, exemplifying an ethic of community, teamwork, personal responsibility, and creative problem-solving in pursuit of the organization's mission.

Through this position, the Seasonal Farm Hand will:

- Gain the skills and knowledge involved in sustainable farming
- Learn the cycles of the growing season, crop rotation, succession/companion planting, and market farming
- Develop confidence and leadership skills
- Gain experience working with, facilitating, and teaching others in a farm setting
- Support the hands-on learning that comes through hard work in the fields with educational resources and leadership opportunities

### Essential Functions

The Seasonal Farm Hand will work in partnership with the Farm Manager & Farm Assistant to create and ensure the completion of daily and weekly tasks. While day-to-day responsibilities may vary, job activities will include assistance with greenhouse management, seeding/transplanting, preparing beds, integrated pest and weed management, irrigation, harvesting/processing, distribution through sales and donations, maintaining facilities and tools, and working alongside staff and volunteers in farm tasks.

While farming is the focus of this position, other job activities may include:

- Hands-on garden education (field trips, summer camps, in-school lessons, youth leadership program)
- Community events and outreach
- Mobile markets and farm stand
- Special events (annual plant sales, fundraisers, open houses)
- Administrative tasks as needed (record keeping, reporting, planning)

### **Core Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Strong work ethic
- Willingness to learn, ask questions, and follow directions
- Strong interpersonal skills and an ability to communicate effectively with staff, volunteers, and youth
- Ability to work efficiently both independently as well as in a group setting
- Comfortable accepting and receiving feedback
- Commitment to creating and improving systems
- Comfortable working outside during hot, cold, and inclement weather
- Ability to lift 50+ regularly

*\*While experience working a vegetable farm is helpful, a willingness to work hard, try new things, and improvise is most important! We encourage candidates with limited experience to still apply.*

### **Other Requirements**

- Because our farm is located in an area without access to reliable public transportation, we recommend that applicants with access to a vehicle apply. In addition, a valid driver's license is required to fulfill job duties as is a clean driving record, for insurance purposes.
- Because we routinely work with children, background check are required for final applicants
- Cell phone communication
- Along with all other members of the PG team, the Seasonal Farm Hand will occasionally be required to work weekend and evening hours

**Compensation:** This is a part-time (24-30 hrs/week), non-exempt position. We are looking for a candidate who can make a seasonal commitment from approximately May 29, 2024 - Oct 1, 2024, though the exact start/end dates are flexible. Pay is \$16.50 per hour. Benefits include a share of farm produce and the opportunity to work with an engaged and supportive team.

### **How to Apply**

Please email [hiring@projectgrows.org](mailto:hiring@projectgrows.org) with a brief introduction and resume.

*Project GROWS is committed to inclusion, trust, respect, and a collaborative work life. We are committed to being rooted in and of our communities where we serve. We are committed to equal employment opportunity regardless of race, color, ancestry, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, citizenship, marital status, disability, gender identity or Veteran status.*

**For more information about Project GROWS, visit [www.projectgrows.org](http://www.projectgrows.org).**