

Youth Leaders in Agriculture Job Description, 2023

Status: Seasonal, part-time

Hours and Schedule: 23 hours per week, Tuesday through Friday

Start and End Dates: May 30th through July 21st

Compensation: \$12.00/hour

Supervisor: Program Coordinator



Organization Overview: Project GROWS (PG) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational farm with a mission to improve the overall health of children and youth in Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County, Virginia. We cultivate health by connecting children to nutritious food through hands-on, garden-based education and access to healthy local food.

Position Description: The Youth Leaders in Agriculture program engages high school students in mentorship, leadership development, and hands-on learning about farming, food and environmental education, and the food system. Building a more just food system with youth leaders at the center is crucial to addressing economic and cultural inequalities for all students, their families, and our communities at large.

Responsibilities

1. **FARM TASKS:** No prior farming experience is required for this position and all training for this position will take place on the job, but you should definitely be interested in farming OR gardening in order to apply. The summer Youth Leaders in Agriculture serve on a team of 5 to 7 other youth who are an important part of the Project GROWS farm crew in June and July. The Youth Leaders will directly assist with all aspects of vegetable production at the farm including: bed preparation, soil amending, planting, harvesting, weeding, mulching, pest management, and post-harvest handling.
2. **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:** The Youth Leaders will participate in weekly workshops, lessons, and team-building activities. They may also assist with K-12 field trips or camps on the farm for younger students.
3. **PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH:** Students will explore the food system, visit our farmer's markets, and practice cooking healthy recipes.
4. **JOB SKILLS & CAREER EXPLORATION:** This program is also designed to help students prepare for their next job after Project GROWS and includes a resume-writing workshop, mock interviews, and networking opportunities with other local farms, community food systems organizations, and nature and conservation nonprofits.

Job Locations: ***NEW THIS YEAR***

- ❖ Youth Leaders will work at the Project GROWS farm on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays** (608 Berry Farm Road, Staunton, VA 24401).
- ❖ Youth Leaders will work at the Waynesboro Education Farm on **Thursdays** (Berkeley Glenn Elementary School, 1020 Jefferson Ave Waynesboro, VA 22980)
- ❖ Fridays may involve an off-site field trip in the Staunton, Waynesboro, Augusta County area.

Tentative Weekly Schedule

Daily schedule includes a 30-minute unpaid lunch and regular water breaks.

Applications are due April 28th at 5pm. To access our online application, visit www.projectgrows.org.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OFF	At Project GROWS Farm 7:30-2:00	At Project GROWS Farm 7:30-2:00	At Waynesboro Education Farm 7:30-2:00	At Project GROWS Farm *Possible off-site field trip* 8:00-1:30

Requirements:

- No previous farming or gardening experience is required; a willingness to work hard and try new things is most important. Applicants must possess a strong work ethic, be willing to learn, work efficiently, and follow direction. Ability to work independently and collaboratively as a key part of the Youth Leaders in Agriculture crew. Applicants must be comfortable working outside, including during hot, cold, and rainy weather.
- Must be at least **16 years of age** by the start date of job and must be **currently in the 11th or 12 grade**.
- Must be attending, or have recently graduated from, a high school in Staunton, Waynesboro, or Augusta County. Homeschool and private school students from the SAW area will be considered as well.
- Candidates must make a commitment to the entire date range.
- Reliable transportation; cell phone and email communication
- If hired, employees must comply with random drug screening.

Days Off: June 2nd, June 19th (Juneteenth), July 3rd, and July 4th (Independence Day).

Compensation:

This is a part-time, seasonal 23 hours per week position starting May 30 and ending July 21. Salary is \$12.00 per hour. Additional hours beyond July 21 may be possible for students who are interested (if hired, ask your supervisor). All employees are protected by PG's workers' compensation insurance policy while employed at PG. This covers injury or illness resulting from legitimate work activities. Employees are required to promptly report any on-the-job injury to the Executive Director immediately.

Transportation:

Students will need to provide their own transportation to and from the work site every day. One work site is in Staunton and the other is in Waynesboro. Please read the Job Locations section on page 1.

How to apply: Fill out our application online at www.projectgrows.org. Applications are due April 28th at 5pm.

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.

Applications are due April 28th at 5pm. To access our online application, visit www.projectgrows.org.

Mailing Address: PO Box 781, Staunton, VA 24402 | Farm Address: 608 Berry Farm Road, Staunton, VA 24401
EIN (Taxpayer ID) 46-1070735
www.projectgrows.org