

PART-TIME YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Garden & Orchard Assistant

ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY:

LifeCycles is a charitable society working to cultivate community health by connecting people with the food they eat and the land it comes from. We support the region in growing, accessing and eating local food in ways that foster biodiversity and enhance our urban environment. Learn more about our work at lifecyclesproject.ca

For 25 years, LifeCycles' Growing Schools program has been sowing seeds with children and youth and transforming school grounds into biodiverse outdoor classrooms. Through our programs, we aim to empower students and teachers to participate in their local food systems and build a deeper relationship with the natural world. LifeCycles also operates a community orchard and educational site at the Welland Legacy Park in View Royal. These programs are an ideal way to bring communities together to share knowledge, enhance food literacy, and connect people to the land. The Garden & Orchard Assistant will be involved in supporting these activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist with garden and orchard maintenance at three locations
- The position will primarily involve outdoor work and will require the ability to lift 20-30 lbs as well as climb stairs, walk, kneel, or squat, bend, and shovel.
- Orchard tasks will include:
 - general maintenance work (moving bricks, hauling soil, etc.)
 - weeding (lots and lots of weeding)
 - irrigation maintenance
 - fruit thinning & setting coddling moth traps/ bands
 - orchard inspections (checking for newly broken branches, diseased, dying, stressed trees, weeds taking over, etc)
 - assisting with organizing workshop events
- Micro-Farm / Garden tasks will include:
 - harvesting vegetables & preparing produce for distribution
 - weeding & plant care
 - general site maintenance tasks, as required

LEARNING & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Basics of fruit tree care and orchard maintenance
- Pest management & identifying diseases in gardens and orchards
- Plant identification and plant care
- Food production and harvesting practices

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be eligible under Canada Summer Jobs guidelines and the requirements of this position. Applicants must be between 15 - 30 years old, and be Permanent Residents / Canadian Citizens.
- Must be able to work independently and as part of a team
- Able to complete multi-step directions
- Strong organizational skills for keeping track of instructions and schedules
- Able to reliably commute to the various work sites as listed above

ASSETS:

- Some past knowledge and experience in gardening, farming, agriculture, horticulture, or a similar field
- Well-organized, able to prioritize tasks, flexible to changing work schedules, and able to meet deadlines

POSITION DETAILS:

Application Closing Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 5:00pm PST

Start Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Contract Duration: 15-16 hours/week for 8 weeks

Tentative Schedule: Tuesday (9am-4:30pm), Wednesday (9am-1pm), Thursday (9am-1pm)

Salary: \$16.00/hour

Work Conditions: Outdoors at [Welland Legacy Park](#) Community Orchard, [Marigold Elementary School](#) Micro-Farm, and [Claremont Secondary School](#) Micro-Farm. All work will be conducted in adherence to current Public Health Orders and COVID-19 Safety Protocols.

Hiring Priorities: Funding for this position requires that this job opportunity is provided to youth who have not previously been employed, or who have not yet graduated high school.

Send applications by email to info@lifecyclesproject.ca by **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**

Please submit a resume and cover letter addressing your past experience and applicable transferable skills as they relate to the qualifications. Email your application materials (resume and cover letter, ideally as one PDF) with the subject line: **"Garden & Orchard Assistant"** and include your full name in the filename(s) of your application materials.

LifeCycles is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage women, people of Indigenous ancestry, people of colour, LGBTQQIP2SA individuals and members of other diverse communities to apply for careers with our organization. LifeCycles operates on unceded Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen, Esquimalt, and W-SÁNEC peoples.

We thank everyone for their interest, but only those selected for interviews will be contacted.