



Compost Operations Internship – Community Gardens Programs

BACKGROUND: Inter-Faith Food Shuttle is an innovative hunger-relief organization serving seven counties in central North Carolina. We FEED our neighbors, TEACH self-sufficiency, and GROW healthy foods by cultivating innovative approaches to end hunger.

The Food Shuttle’s Community Gardens Program is made up of two community gardens: one in downtown Durham and the other in downtown Raleigh. These locations engage citizens in garden education and food production, composting, pollinator gardening and more. Additionally, we build raised-bed garden boxes for anyone interested in having a home garden in our seven-county service area through our Gardens for Everyone Program.

SCOPE OF WORK: The intern will work at our Camden Street Learning Garden in Raleigh to support the operations of its Compost Kitchen facility. The Compost Kitchen is a medium-scale composting system that recycles both on-site garden waste and food scraps from the community through a partnership with CompostNow. The intern will play an important role assisting staff to ensure the on-site composting system operates effectively and actively engages our neighbors.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Volunteers:
 - Lead and assist volunteers through composting workdays and general workdays as needed
 - Assist staff with recruiting new community members and groups for volunteer workdays
 - Support general community garden workdays
- Compost operations:
 - Determine regular material quantity needs and work with staff to ensure we can source materials appropriately
 - Assist with compost record keeping such as regular pH and temperature checks and development of records
 - Assist as needed with other on-site composting operations such as the vermicompost system
- Education:
 - Work with Gardens staff to develop educational resources and training on composting for volunteers and the community

REQUIREMENTS:

- Skills or knowledge in environmental studies, environmental education, composting, waste management and/or logistics.
- Interest in gardening, sustainable agriculture, or community development.

- Solid organizational skills with the ability to manage multiple tasks, set priorities, work independently and as a team.
- Ability to perform physical tasks including frequently lifting/moving materials up to 50 lb in weight, general garden tasks and other outdoor activities required.
- Must be able to provide their own transportation to Gardens site.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop skills and knowledge in volunteer recruitment and engagement, environmental education and compost system operation.
- Develop skills and knowledge in sustainable agriculture and community garden programming.
- Expand knowledge of the food system, the root causes of hunger and how Food Shuttle programs and other efforts within the community aim to end hunger.

TIME COMMITMENT:

- 10-15 hours/week in-person at our Camden Street Learning Garden in Raleigh; Monday through Friday primarily mornings required; some Saturdays and/or evenings as needed.
- Work Environment:
 - The role involves both office work and outdoor activities.
 - The dress code is comfortable yet professional attire with closed-toe shoes for outdoor task; for outdoor activities, durable, weather-appropriate clothing such as waterproof boots or closed-toe shoes, hats, sunglasses, gloves, and rain gear or jackets (depending on weather conditions) is necessary for protection and suitability on uneven ground.

COMPENSATION: This is an unpaid/volunteer internship.

TO APPLY: Submit an application, resume and cover letter to Susan Meador, Volunteer Services Director, susan@foodshuttle.org and use the subject line: Community Gardens Internship