



Seasonal Gardener

Abbey Gardens is a charitable organization created with a mission to transform a spent gravel pit into a green space dedicated to developing economic, ecological, educational, and recreational growth within our community. We bring this mission to life by focusing on three key pillars, Environmental Restoration, Community Education, and Local Food Systems. The Garden team is dedicated to supporting all three pillars by practicing sustainable gardening techniques, offering workshops on how to grow and harvest your own food, and by working with community partners to grow food for our local community.

The Seasonal Gardener is responsible for caring for the garden operations on site and is a support for our programming and restoration garden spaces. Abbey Gardens is working towards creating a combination of plots for our own use and plots for a community garden to offer people a space to grow their own food. The garden also supplies product to our kitchen and cafe to support our farm to table experiences. The team will focus on sustainable gardening practices, building soils, and supporting biodiversity. We maintain crops grown in our unheated hoop houses as well as in our outdoor plots, including a variety of vegetables, herbs and flowers. There will be a focus on working with community members, and growing partnerships with local organizations to support the local food system. The Seasonal Gardener position offers opportunity to work with our volunteers and community partners that support our work and share their knowledge with visitors.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Develop annual vegetable and flower garden plans
- Prepare and maintain garden beds
- Plant, harvest, and process a variety of crops
- Weed, water and prune vegetable crops and flower beds
- Yield tracking
- Offer and support workshops on growing, and harvesting
- Assist with program garden areas
- Coordinate with food services staff for harvest
- Assist with special projects and events
- Supervision of garden staff and volunteers

Critical Skills:

- Experience growing vegetables, herbs, and flowers
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work independently and within a team structure
- Ability to share stories and pictures/video on social media

- Ability to share written experiences for promotion
- Willingness to offer workshops for the public
- Ability to work outdoors in physically demanding conditions (heat, precipitation)
- Experience using garden tools
- Willingness to learn and share knowledge
- Interest in gardening and education

Assets

- Knowledge of local food systems
- Knowledge of sustainable gardening practices
- Knowledge of native plants
- Knowledge of bee keeping

Anticipated start date is late March 2025 with an end date of late October 2025. Wage will be based on experience.

Please submit a detailed resume by February 28, 2025, to:

Angela Kruger, Executive Director
angela@abbeygardens.ca