



Ecological Restoration & Gardening Assistant

Rolling interviews begin February 1st, 2025.

Applications accepted until positions are filled.

Anticipated start/end dates: May 5th 2025- August 22nd 2025

37.5 hrs/week @\$19/hr

**Questions and submission of cover letter & resume to Cara Steele at
cara@abbeygardens.ca.**

Abbey Gardens is a charitable organization in **Haliburton, ON** with a mission to re-green a former gravel pit into a sustainable community destination that provides education, economic development, and recreation through an ecological lens. The 380-acre site and its projects offer tremendous opportunities for learning and experimentation as well as project management.

The Ecological Restoration & Gardening Assistant will be responsible for assisting with the environmental restoration, ecological gardens, and land stewardship projects at Abbey Gardens. The role provides an opportunity to plan, plant, maintain and monitor projects related to the rehabilitation of the Abbey Gardens property and educational programming gardens & spaces. It also provides an opportunity for invasive species management and biomonitoring.

Job Description

Primary responsibilities include:

- Work with the Ecologist to execute plans for ecological spaces including rain gardens, meadows, lawn conversions, prairie plantings and shoreline projects
- Maintain ecological spaces and gardens (ie. weeding, mulching, watering, monitoring)
- Curate children's education gardens and spaces using native and ornamental plants, vegetables, play structures and other infrastructure
- Assist with biomonitoring projects for breeding birds, salamanders, species at risk, and benthic invertebrates
- Invasive species management of phragmites, comfrey, and black locust on property
- Assist with the execution of our annual native plant sale
- Write educational materials (interpretive signs, blog posts etc.) about our restoration efforts on-site and within the community
- Assist with trail maintenance where relevant (protecting at risk species, safe property use, general trail maintenance etc.)
- In collaboration with Ecologist, liaise with Trent University researchers and students on joint projects
- Assist with animal care of our horses, chickens, and ducks
- Enhance visitor experiences by answering questions and providing tours/guided walks/workshops of the gardens, property and restoration spaces
- Research and plan for future naturalization projects



- Other duties as assigned (event support, animal care, etc.)

The ideal candidate:

- Pursuing or has completed schooling in environmental sciences,
- Experience and/or interest with environmental restoration and/or ecological gardening
- Knowledge of native plants and their properties
- Experience with gardening (weeding, watering, mulching, planting, pruning)
- Leadership qualities and fun, dynamic personality
- Comfortable working outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- Has accommodations locally (Haliburton County and surrounding area), driver's license and access to a vehicle
- Valid Standard First Aid or agreement to attain valid Standard First Aid prior to start date