

Garden Manager at Cobblestone Farms

Cobblestone Farms is a hunger relief non-profit farm serving Northwest Arkansas. Arkansas leads the country in food insecurity. At Cobblestone Farms, we work to expand access to fresh food through farming, community engagement, and education. Access to nutritious food leads to better health, educational outcomes, and life. However, what we do is about more than just calories. It's about dignity. Let's work together to build a better NWA.

Position Summary:

The Garden Manager at Cobblestone Farms is responsible for the planning, development, and maintenance of the garden. This role is pivotal in ensuring the successful cultivation and distribution of produce. Reporting to the Farm Director, the Garden Manager will work closely with other team members to integrate garden activities with the broader objectives of the farm and community programs. This role is ideally suited for someone with a passion for horticulture, sustainable farming practices, and a desire to make a tangible impact on food security in the community.

Key Responsibilities:

- Garden Planning and Execution: Develop and implement comprehensive plans for vegetable and fruit production in collaboration with the Executive Director and Farm Director. Execute the day-to-day maintenance of the garden to fulfill production plans.
- Maintenance Oversight: Ensure garden infrastructure is in good working condition and promptly correct any issues & report any further problems to the Farm Director for assistance.
- During shoulder seasons, the Garden Manager will maintain grounds including, but not limited to mowing, edging, etc.
- Distribution Support: Collaborate with partners to ensure efficient distribution of garden produce.
- Record Keeping: Maintain accurate records of garden activities, yields, food safety, and pest management.
- Team Collaboration: Work with the Farm Director, other coordinators, and seasonal labor for cohesive operations.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Education: A degree in Horticulture, Agriculture, or a related field is preferred.
- Experience: 1 year experience in project management. Demonstrable experience in organically managed market garden-style agricultural production.
- Skills: Strong knowledge of plant cultivation, garden management, and sustainable farming practices.

- Personal Attributes: Detail-oriented, proactive, and passionate about community-driven agriculture.

Performance Goals:

- Productive Gardens: Achieve targeted yield and quality of garden produce.
- Operational Efficiency: Streamline garden operations for maximum productivity and sustainability.
- Community Engagement: Enhance the farm's outreach through active involvement in educational and volunteer programs related to gardening.
- Sustainability Initiatives: Implement and maintain sustainable gardening practices.

Schedule:

Due to the nature of this position, the schedule will fluctuate based on the season. The typical hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 8 am to 4 pm, with some flexibility.

Opportunities for Growth:

This role offers substantial opportunities for skill development and professional growth in the field of sustainable agriculture and community engagement. Success in this role can lead to increased leadership responsibilities and further involvement in strategic farm planning.

Compensation:

The compensation for the Garden Manager position is competitive and reflective of regional standards for similar roles.