

We save land.



We save rivers.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Farm Manager

at The Conservation Foundation

Job Summary: We're looking for an energetic, knowledgeable and inspiring Farm Manager to join our growing team at The Conservation Foundation. The Farm Manager will manage day-to-day agricultural activities, lead and supervise our farm crew and volunteers, and interact with our Green Earth Harvest program customers. Excellent agricultural, organizational and communication skills are important qualifications for this position, as well as the ability to lead and inspire others. The ideal candidate for this position is experienced with a farm of this size, a skilled multi-tasker, is reliable and is committed to exceeding customer expectations. We're an energetic group and are looking for a passionate individual to join our organization and lead this program.

Reports To: Director of Land Protection

Position Type: Full-time, year-round, exempt

Location: Naperville, Illinois

Tasks Include:

- Production planning;
- Ordering seeds and supplies;
- Planting, weeding, pest and disease control, harvesting, washing, and soil building;
- Greenhouse transplant production and season-extending greenhouse production;
- Recruiting, supervising and training paid field crew and volunteers;
- Supplying produce for the CSA, plus some wholesale and restaurants;
- Basic farm equipment maintenance and infrastructure improvement;
- Farm record keeping, including paperwork and management of organic certification; and
- All other aspects of farm operation and management.

Education and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree required; Agricultural major preferred.
- Minimum five years previous agriculture experience with demonstrated knowledge of organic practices and leadership of farm crews.
- At least 5 years managing an organic vegetable farm; familiarity with crop rotations, soil fertility building, cover crops;
- Managerial experience, preferably supervising farm workers; demonstrated ability to inspire, lead and manage employees and volunteers in performing tasks through direct supervision or as a team/project leader;
- Continuing education in food safety best practices;
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, ability to speak Spanish would be a plus;
- Tractor-driving skills;
- Experience in working with Microsoft Office;
- Organizational, budget planning and management, farm planning, collaboration skills;
- Commitment to high standards in vegetable production, sales, and farm presentation;
- Strong social and interpersonal skills including the ability to resolve and mediate conflict and maintain good working relationships with coworkers, volunteers, local partners and members of the community;
- Experience in grant reporting and grant management;
- Knowledge and commitment to land preservation and conservation values;
- Current and valid Illinois driver's license required as there is local travel involved;
- Able to work well with others and to work under pressure and meet deadlines in a professional manner; must be a self-starter and be able to work independently;
- Persistence, sense-of-humor and entrepreneurial spirit welcomed;
- Connection and passionate interest to the mission of The Conservation Foundation desired.



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www.theconservationfoundation.org

Physical Demands and Work Environment:

- Outside in all types of weather for prolonged periods;
- Able to perform heavy lifting of weights up to 60 pounds;
- Some late hours and weekends required.

Benefits:

- Health insurance
- Dental insurance
- Retirement plan
- Paid time off
- Parental leave

Please direct all resumes and questions to Dan Lobbes, Director of Land Protection at: dlobbes@theconservationfoundation.org or 630-428-4500, Ext. 201.

The Conservation Foundation is an equal opportunity employer. All aspects of employment including the decision to hire, promote, discipline, or discharge, will be based on merit, competence, performance, and business needs. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, pregnancy, genetic information, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other status protected under federal, state, or local law.