



WASATCH
COMMUNITY
GARDENS

900-Hour UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator

Organization and Job Description

Founded in 1989, Wasatch Community Gardens is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that works to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Wasatch Community Gardens achieves its mission by providing access to land and education.

The WCG Youth Gardening Program works with youth in four programs – Youth Garden Club, Summer Camps, Field Trips, and Group Visits – to develop the skills and knowledge they need to grow, prepare, and eat healthy food. Our goal is to empower youth to make healthy choices for themselves, their community, and the environment. Last year, more than 1,000 youth participated in our programs.

The UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator is primarily responsible for teaching the WCG summer camps, field trips, and group visits. The Youth Educator will also assist in maintaining the two teaching gardens, help facilitate garden volunteer groups, and assist at WCG special events.

This position requires strong leadership skills, self-motivation, the ability to work as part of a team, and a passion for teaching youth to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Through this position, the UCC AmeriCorps members will have the opportunity to learn about outdoor education, sustainable food production, and professional non-profit work through hands-on experience.

Primary Responsibilities

Education

- Teach summer camps, field trips, and youth group visits in the gardens
- Provide a safe, active, and engaging environment for diverse youth participants
- Document outcomes of gardening lessons and review with Youth Program Director
- Collaborate on curriculum development for garden-based classes
- Work with a variety of partner agencies, local community groups, and service-learning groups on garden and education projects

Gardening

- Assist in maintaining two teaching gardens using sustainable and organic practices
- Assist in maintaining gardens as outdoor classrooms that are safe, engaging, and welcoming
- Harvest, record, and distribute produce from the teaching gardens
- Help to facilitate garden volunteer groups, garden crews, and staff workdays

Additional Responsibilities

- Assist with Wasatch Community Gardens events including:
 - Spring Plant Sale fundraiser (one Saturday in May)
 - Urban Garden and Farm Week (one Saturday in June)
 - Tomato Sandwich Party (one Saturday in September)
- Attend agriculture, education, and community engagement trainings with other youth educators and Youth Program Director



Qualifications

- Experience working with youth ages 4-12, particularly in an outdoor setting
- Basic knowledge of sustainable, organic gardening OR strong desire to learn
- Organized, motivated, and able to work independently and as part of a group
- Ability to build relationships with youth from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- Desire to work outdoors in variable weather conditions
- Excellent communication skills
- Positive and flexible attitude, ability to solve problems creatively

Other Preferred Experience

- Bachelor's degree in related field (education, social work, environmental studies, etc.)
- Familiarity with environmental and/or experiential education methods
- Prior experience with gardening or farming
- Experience with tools used in basic carpentry, landscaping, and garden work
- Knowledge of nutrition and basic cooking skills
- Ability to lift 50 lbs and a good level of physical fitness
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite, comfortable using Gmail and Google calendar

Minimum Qualifications

Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident and eligible to serve an AmeriCorps State/National term. Must be at least age 18 by start of their term and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must undergo and pass a National Criminal History Check. **Must commit to completing their Term of Service.**

Schedule

Six month, 900-hour position, averaging 40 hours/week – typical schedule Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm with some evenings and weekends.

Job begins Monday, April 9, 2018 and ends Friday, November 2, 2018.

Compensation

This is an individual placement position through the Utah State University, Utah Conservation Corps (USU-UCC), AmeriCorps Program. USU-UCC will provide the selected individuals with a \$6,686 living allowance divided into bi-monthly installments, an educational award of \$2,907 (upon completion of entire internship), an option to purchase health insurance, child care (for qualified members), and student loan deferment during service. There is also the option of receiving some USU university credit hours.

Additional benefits of this position include paid holidays, access to fresh garden produce, and an active, outdoor work environment.

To apply

Send cover letter; resume; names, titles, and phone numbers of two professional references to openings@wasatchgardens.org by 9 am, March 12, 2018. Please put "UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator" in the subject line. Applications received prior to February 26 will receive priority consideration.

Applications without a cover letter will not be considered.

People of color, women, veterans, and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. WCG is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its employment decisions on the basis of race, religion, gender, age, national origin, mental or physical disabilities, sexual orientation, or any other similarly protected status.