Livestock Apprenticeship

Begins: March 16th, 2020
Ends: November 25th, 2020
Stipend: $1800 per month
Housing: Housing Provided

Description: Carversville Farm Foundation (CFF) is a non-profit farm that practices organic agricultural production to serve our environment as well as our community. We currently distribute our farm products to soup kitchens and food pantries in the greater Philadelphia area to help improve access to wholesome, locally grown foods. CFF also sells some of its produce to local restaurants and at our weekly farm stand. We are in the early stages of creating a diversified farm with intensive cover cropping, perennial pastures for grazing beef cattle, pasture raised poultry, poultry processing, mixed vegetables, and mushroom production. Applicants will be expected to work on everything from plant propagation to bed prep and field maintenance, weeding, harvesting, post harvest handling/wash and pack.

Skills: Our livestock crew raises grass fed beef (18 steers per year) and pastured poultry (350 turkeys, 1,000 egg-laying hens, and 3,000 meat chickens per year). We work outdoors together in all weather – hot and humid, cold and rainy, and everything in between, including plenty of beautiful sunny days. We take pride in giving the animals a good life. Daily livestock chores include setting up and taking down electric fencing to move the animals to fresh pasture daily, as well as collecting, washing and packing eggs. Twice a month, we process chickens (slaughter, eviscerate and pack them). Ability to complete all field work tasks, and a willingness to be flexible team players and contribute wherever needed throughout the season; willingness and desire to work until the job is done, working overtime if necessary throughout the peak of the season. Previous farm experience is a plus. Applicants should possess the ability and desire to sustain effort in both an independent and diverse team setting, often in adverse weather conditions. Must be able to lift up to 40lbs. Applicants should also have the self-motivation to strive towards completing tasks quickly and efficiently. Driving our delivery van into the greater Philadelphia area will be required. Participating in processing poultry on the farm will also be a part of the job. Good people skills and the willingness to work with volunteers are important. We’re seeking people who are reliable, organized, enthusiastic, have good communication skills and an attention to detail, and have an eagerness to learn the principles of organic and regenerative farming.

Apprenticeship: Our apprenticeship program is designed as an introduction to organic farming. Learning the basic skills of farming will be covered from start to finish. The apprentice will learn mostly on the job. Reading material will be supplied to continue the learning after the work day. Lively discussions on and off the field are encouraged to keep the conversation going. Apprentices will work a minimum of 40 hours/week with our full-time farmers on every aspect of production, and will also have the opportunity to attend workshops, classes, and trainings on and off the farm to support their professional development in organic agriculture.

Carversville Farm Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Submit resume and cover letter to info@carversvillefarm.org. Clearly indicate which position you are interested in and why.