

Job Title:	Farm Assistant	Exempt:	No
Department:	Farm Operations	Travel Required:	Occasionally
Reports to:	Operations Manager	Position Type	30 Hrs.
Hourly Wage	\$13.00	PTO	Yes
Housing	Yes Shared included		

The Ecology School is seeking a hard-working person with an interest in farming operations to work on our full-scale agroecology farm at its campus, River Bend Farm, in Saco, Maine. River Bend Farm is a 105-acre property that has been redesigned by The Ecology School to support environmental education and leadership. The Ecology School is a non-profit organization that inspires stewardship of and connection to the natural world through experiential learning in ecology, conservation, farming, and sustainability.

Job Summary

The Farm Assistant will learn operational tasks and assist in completing the day-to-day responsibilities at River Bend Farm. The position will work with our Farm Lead in farm production, growing crops (fruits and vegetables), managing fields (mowing), and processing and delivering crops to The Ecology School's own kitchen as well as local partners.

The Farm Assistant will receive training in: greenhouse operations, seedling management (seeding, potting up, watering, hardening off), transplanting, soil amending, weeding/cultivating, harvesting, washing, packing, processing, pruning, organic pest and disease management, operating farm equipment, assisting in building critical systems and infrastructure, and other miscellaneous farm tasks.

Additional opportunities exist to learn about permaculture landscaping and management as River Bend Farm begins to transform the land surrounding its buildings to permaculture.

Additional Responsibilities

- Provides high quality care for farm animal.
- Works cooperatively with seasonal farm staff, interns, volunteer, WOOFers, and The Ecology School staff.
- Assists in overseeing and providing basic repair and routine maintenance on farm equipment to ensure safe operation and continual quality output.
- Responsible for safe operation and maintenance of mechanical and non-mechanical equipment, and training others in the safe operation of such equipment.

Skills Desired

The Ecology School seeks an individual who is excited about farming and all that comes with it!

- Must have some amount of garden, farming, and or outdoor physical labor experience.
- Ability to work hard under pressure and time constraints in all sorts of weather.

- Attention to detail and ability to manage pace to efficiently and effectively complete tasks.
- Someone who is excited about the prospect of spending their days performing hard physical farm labor.
- Resourceful and passionate about agriculture and environmental issues is a plus.
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills.
- Must be able to lift and carry 50 lbs.
- Must be willing to learn to use heavy farm equipment and machinery, including tractors.
- Previous farm experience is a plus but not required.

The Farm assistant is a 30 hours/week position. The position will run from April through the end of October / early November. Pay is \$13/hour. Benefits are not included. Shared housing is included near River Bend Farm. Free staff meals are available when we are serving program participants in the dining hall.

To apply for this position please send your resume and letter of interest to
Rich@TheEcologySchool.org

Quality of life and enjoyment of work is important to The Ecology School. Farm labor is physically and mentally challenging. We've made the intentional decision to limit the Farm Leads hours to 30 per week so the individual is not unfairly expected to perform demanding farm work to the extent that burnout is reached. It's important to enjoy time at River Bend Farm and the incredible mission-driven work that is being done here.