



## Sprout City Farms Assistant Farm Manager

Sprout City Farms (SCF) is looking for individuals able to play an integral role in helping realize our mission and vision: to establish a network of accessible, educational farms that nourish, and are nourished by, their surrounding community.

*About Sprout City Farms:* SCF is an urban agriculture nonprofit founded in 2010 to create healthier, more resilient local food communities. Since then, SCF has successfully transformed 3.5 acres of underutilized urban land into fertile ground that produces 14+ tons of fresh produce annually and nourishes thousands of people across metro-Denver.

So far, we have built:

- the Denver Green School (DGS) Community Farm, a 1-acre organic vegetable farm on the grounds of the Denver Green School, built in partnership with Denver Public Schools in 2011,
- the Mountair Park (MAP) Community Farm, a 1.5-acre organic vegetable farm on the grounds of Mountair Park, built in partnership with the City of Lakewood in 2014,
- the Dahlia Campus Farm, a 1-acre organic vegetable farm at the Dahlia Campus for Health and Well-Being, built and managed in partnership with the Mental Health Center of Denver from 2015-18; this site is now managed by MHCD.
- the farm at Jack's Solar Garden, a 5-acre agrivoltaics site in Longmont growing crops under solar panels, built in partnership with Jack's Solar Garden and the University of Arizona in 2021.

*About Mountair Park Community Farm:* MAP is located at the corner of 13th & Depew St. in NE Lakewood. The farm produced more than 7 tons of food in its 8th year (2021) and continues to grow in size. Food is distributed through a 70-share CSA program, weekly donation-based Farm Stands, and donations to local food relief partners.

*About Denver Green School Community Farm:* DGS is located in the SE corner of the schoolyard at 6700 E. Virginia Ave. in SE Denver. The farm, now in its 12th year, produces an average of 5-6 tons of food each season, which is distributed through a Farm to Cafeteria program, on-site youth-run farm stand, 80-share CSA program, and donations to the school food pantry.

Educational and community programs at both sites include externships and apprenticeships, volunteer days, farm to classroom, field trips, tours, workshops, cooking demonstrations, and various social events throughout the year.

In 2022, we are seeking two assistant farm managers to help implement farm operations and educational programs at MAP and DGS (1 per site) under the direction of each site's Farm

Manager and in collaboration with the Program Manager. The Assistant Farm Manager will assist with vegetable production and field work, and be responsible for educational programs on site for externs, volunteers, and community members in collaboration with the Program Manager.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

### **Farm Operations (60%):**

- Assist in planting, cultivating, harvesting, and processing crops; serve as a pace-setter for these activities.
- Assist with general farm upkeep such as irrigation system maintenance, weeding, perennial maintenance, and composting.
- Participate in all-crew days at the Denver Green School Community Farm, Mountair Park Community Farm, and the Farm at Jack's Solar Garden, approximately 1-2 days a month throughout the season.
- Understand and help implement annual crop plan including rotations, planting map, and greenhouse seeding.
- Assist in facilitating harvest to ensure high quality and timely production.
- Basic tool and equipment maintenance.
- Engage with volunteers and help lead groups of volunteers in the completion of various farm tasks.

### **Education (35%):**

- Manage the work and education of farm externs two days a week in cooperation with Farm Manager.
- Assist the Program Manager with the development and implementation of extern educational opportunities and once-a-month Saturday workshops.
- Assist in implementing farm-based educational and volunteer programs such as volunteer days, workshops, tours, and student engagement.

### **General & Administrative (5%):**

- Collaborate with Farm Manager for accurate recordkeeping and reporting on farm outcomes, including written monthly updates to the Executive Director.



- Participation in regular staff meetings and other meetings (such as board meetings) as needed.
- Adhere to SCF training in employee manual and food safety plan.

### **Desired Qualifications:**

- Minimum of 2 years of agricultural experience on a sustainable and/or no-till vegetable production farm.
- Strong organizational skills including: multi-tasking, prioritizing, planning, and effective time management.
- Ability to speak in front of groups of people, preferably in an education setting
- Motivated, flexible and ability to work independently.
- Demonstrated experience working with diverse populations.
- Access to computer and phone (stipend provided for use of personal resources).
- Be in excellent physical condition and able to lift 50 lbs.
- Candidates must be able to work independently as well as with a group, and possess creativity, flexibility and the ability to problem-solve and take initiative.

### **Time Commitment and Compensation**

This is a seasonal full-time position (40 hours/week) beginning March 15 and ending November 15. All SCF positions are currently field-based/home-office. The preferred candidate will be a self-starter who is able to effectively work independently. Initial compensation is \$24,920 for the time specified above, including monthly stipends for health care and home office. Requests for time off are coordinated among staff schedules and the needs of the organization; farm staff are strongly encouraged to take any needed vacation in the slower months of the growing season (i.e. July).

### **Application Process**

We believe that systemic inequalities disproportionately impact BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color), women, people from working class backgrounds, LGBTQ+ people, and other oppressed groups. Because we believe that these communities must be centered in our work as we fight for food justice for all, we strongly encourage applications from people with these identities or who are members of other disenfranchised communities.

Studies have shown that women and BIPOC are less likely to apply for jobs unless they believe they can perform every job description task. We are most interested in finding the best candidate for the job, and that candidate may come from a less traditional background. Sprout City Farms will consider any equivalent combination of knowledge, skills, education, and experience to meet minimum qualifications. If you are interested in applying, we



encourage you to think broadly about your background.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, and 3 references. We will accept applications throughout Jan-Feb 2022 until the position is filled. In your letter, please answer the following questions:

1. At what farm are you interested in working? If that position is filled, would you be open to a position at the sister farm?
2. Tell us about how you got involved in farming and what draws you to community-centered agriculture. Describe your ideal farming experience.
3. What topics are you most passionate about teaching people? Describe your experience sharing this knowledge in the past.
4. What does food justice mean to you?
5. Tell us about a time when you had to balance competing responsibilities. For example, how would you balance educational components with production demands on a farm during the busy season?

Submit to:

Meg Caley, Sprout City Farms Co-Founder and Executive Director

Email: [apply@sproutcityfarms.org](mailto:apply@sproutcityfarms.org)

Mail: P.O. Box 7536 Denver, CO 80207

*For more information on SCF, please visit our website at [www.sproutcityfarms.org](http://www.sproutcityfarms.org) and our facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SproutCityFarms](https://www.facebook.com/SproutCityFarms).*

\*Sprout City Farms follows an equal opportunity employment policy and employs personnel without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligations, marital status, transgender status, gender identity, ancestry, gender, political service, affiliation or disability.

This policy applies to all Sprout City Farms employees, volunteers, members, clients, and contractors. This policy also applies to internal promotions, training, opportunities for advancement, terminations, outside vendors, members and customers, service clients, use of contractors and consultants, and dealings with the general public.\*