

Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont
Summer VT FEED and NOFA VT Garden Intern 2017

About NOFA-VT

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont is a nonprofit association of farmers, gardeners, and consumers working to promote an economically viable and ecologically sound Vermont food system for the benefit of current and future generations.

NOFA Vermont's mission is to create a vital Vermont food system – one that supports consumers who want to eat local, organic food year round, farmers who want technical assistance to be the best stewards of their land and animals, and gardeners who want to grow more of their own food. To achieve our mission, NOFA Vermont works on both a statewide and community level to engage our audience. We have developed programs to respond to organizational goals, build relationships between producers and consumers, and advocate for the interests of our audience. For more information about NOFA-VT and its programs, visit www.nofavt.org.

Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT FEED) is a partnership of NOFA-VT and Shelburne Farms, created in 2000 to support farm to school efforts statewide. Our goal is to grow healthy kids, healthy communities and healthy farms starting with food, farm and nutrition education and getting local, healthy foods into school cafeterias. This summer we will be working on helping summer meal programs buy local food and conduct nutrition education activities.

Position Description:

We will be looking for 2 interns to share projects both at NOFA VT's teaching garden and VT FEED. Reporting to Marissa Watson, the interns will assist in implementing nutrition education activities at summer meals sites. The interns will also assist in the planning and conducting of the VT FEED Farm to School Institute, intensive summer workshops, and general project-related support.

Reporting to Abbie Nelson, the interns will assist with all aspects of planting, caring for, and harvesting food from the NOFA-VT raised bed gardens. The interns will also be responsible for developing and coordinating activities at the garden with children and youth groups, as well as vegetable donations for the local food pantry.

In addition, all interns participate in our summer outreach program by staffing the NOFA-VT pizza oven at statewide farm and food events, providing Vermonters with an opportunity to learn about NOFA-VT and organic/local foods.

NOFA-VT seeks an individual with the capacity to:

- Work with VT FEED staff to track local food at summer meals sites, and pilot nutrition education activities at sites, documenting efforts along the way.
- Provide support for the development and implementation of the VT FEED Farm to School Institute in June (26th – 29th).
- Complete basic garden tasks such as planting, weeding, harvesting, outside in all weather.
- Reach out to food pantries to determine need and coordinate potential deliveries.
- Work with the supervisor to plan plantings and keep records.
- Develop and coordinate educational events, as needed, at the garden, at local summer programs, and on local farms.
- Flexible schedule, available for some evening/weekend events
- Write up garden and community experiences for the local papers
- Learn about NOFA VT in order to communicate about the organization at NOFA social events
- Provide administrative support to Marissa Watson, NOFA-VT/VT FEED School Food Education Coordinator and Abbie Nelson, Food Systems Education Director.

Qualifications

- Excellent communication, writing, editing, research, and organizational skills

- Takes initiative to research answers to questions and shows innovation in solving issues as they occur.
- Interest in learning from others and sharing what is learned.
- Ease working with, and communicating, with children and adults.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite and own computer would be preferred.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively with others.
- Enthusiasm for organic and local foods, school food programs, and farming.
- Be flexible with a great sense of humor .
- Ability to provide your own transportation.

Education

Ideal candidates are interested in food systems and are pursuing a degree in a related field.

Time Frame

- Beginning of May-Middle of August 2017.
- 20 hours a week (flexible).

Compensation

- Unpaid, college credit may be available through your institution.
- Reimbursement for gasoline for travel to events throughout the state.

Please send a cover letter and resume to info@nofavt.org with the subject line “VT FEED and NOFA VT Garden Intern.”