

About the Organization:

Novick Urban Farm (NUF) is an educational non-profit garden located at Fort Mifflin on the Delaware. After 11 years as a 1.3 acre farm, NUF is transitioning into this new space to focus on nutrition and agricultural education opportunities. Two different apprenticeship opportunities are available.

The Nutrition Education Apprenticeship focuses on the Fort Mifflin growing space. The farm's educational programs provide children's groups, and people of all ages, hands-on experiences focused on sustainability, biodiversity and nutrition.

The Community Organizing Apprenticeship focuses on NUFs work with Karen refugee farmers from Myanmar. This year will be spent securing permanent land for their organization and teaching skills that will help lead to the Karen's autonomy around farming their preferred vegetables.

Community Organizing Apprenticeship

Position Description:

The NUF Apprentice will assist with the six garden spaces that have been secured for the Karen farmers. This will include planning, building, planting and continued maintenance throughout the season. This apprentice will also attend community meetings, work with the Kare at the growing sites and work on the funding and land campaigns that will help the refugees secure land access and autonomy in their own organization.

Urban Farm Apprentice Duties:

Farm Management and Production

- Assist lead farmer in all components of crop production (harvesting, planting, weeding, mulching, etc.) at several sites throughout South Philadelphia
- Learn about and help with crop planning and sustainable growing of important cultural crops

Community Outreach

- Work with and manage volunteers at the sites with a focus on knowledge sharing and safety.
- Assist in campaigns for land access and fundraising
- Work with Karen community to understand needs around land and growing food
- Create film and photo directory to show progress through year

Knowledge and Skills the Apprentice May Acquire:

- Gain understanding on urban food systems and growing practices
- Small scale organic vegetable production techniques
- The ability to work in a dynamic environment: this includes being comfortable changing tasks, working/leading diverse groups and feeling confident with a diverse population
- Gain skills working with refugees and sharing knowledge effectively for all farmers and visitors

- Leadership experience working with adult and youth volunteers and visitors
- Community Organizing skills through direct action

Structure of Apprenticeship:

- The apprenticeship runs from June-August and can be extended if desired.
- Apprentice position is 10-15 hours per week. Schedule can be flexible but one field trip day per week is required (usually Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- Apprentices will have one on one guidance and the opportunity to collaborate on their learning objectives and metrics.

Benefits of Apprenticing with Novick Urban Farm:

- Hands-on experience making a positive impact in the lives of children, teens, and adults
- Friendly, relaxed environment
- Opportunity to develop marketable skills
- Learn about sustainable, organic food production in Philadelphia
- Fresh vegetables from the garden as the season permits
- This is an unpaid “For Credit” internship and qualifies for credit at the University level, however it is not required that you obtain credit to participate

Qualifications:

- We are looking for someone with an interest in urban farming and community organizing in Philadelphia.
- Basic gardening knowledge is preferred but not required.
- The apprentice should enjoy working outside in a range of weather conditions and be able to serve as a mature, healthy role model for children and teens.
- This person must be responsible, dedicated and organized.
- We are also open to shaping the apprenticeship to fit the applicant’s skills and interest, including but not limited to community outreach, marketing, and/or non-profit management.
- **Successfully passing a background test and child abuse history clearance required before first day.**

To apply:

Please send a brief cover letter and resume to the Farm Team, at novickfarm@gmail.com, with the subject line: Urban Farm Apprenticeship, Community Organizing.

Position Description:

The NUF Apprentice will assist with garden duties including organic vegetable production, educational visits for 3-7 year olds and community outreach.

Urban Farm Apprentice Duties:

Farm Management and Production

- Assist lead farmer in all components of crop production (harvesting, planting, weeding, mulching, etc.)
- Learn about and help with crop planning and sustainable growing.
- Assist with educational visits including leading learning activities, maintaining a safe environment and helping teachers and parents ensure garden rules are followed
- Opportunity to help expand curriculum if desired

Community Outreach

- Work with and manage volunteers at the farm with a focus on knowledge sharing and safety.

Youth Education

- Assist with corporate and community volunteer groups including leading tasks

Knowledge and Skills the Apprentice May Acquire:

- Gain understanding on urban food systems and growing practices
- Small scale organic vegetable production techniques
- The ability to work in a dynamic environment: this includes being comfortable changing tasks, working/leading diverse groups and feeling confident with a diverse population
- Gain skills working with children and sharing knowledge effectively for each age group.
- Leadership experience working with adult and youth volunteers and visitors

Structure of Apprenticeship:

- The apprenticeship runs from June-August and can be extended if desired.
- Apprentice position is 10-15 hours per week. Schedule can be flexible but one field trip day per week is required (usually Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- Apprentices will have one on one guidance and the opportunity to collaborate on their learning objectives and metrics.

Benefits of Apprenticing with Novick Urban Farm:

- Hands-on experience making a positive impact in the lives of children, teens, and adults
- Friendly, relaxed environment
- Opportunity to develop marketable skills
- Learn about sustainable, organic food production in Philadelphia
- Fresh vegetables from the garden as the season permits
- This is an unpaid "For Credit" internship and qualifies for credit at the University level, however it is not required that you obtain credit to participate

Qualifications:

- We are looking for someone with an interest in urban farming and youth education in Philadelphia.

- Basic gardening knowledge is preferred but not required.
- The apprentice should enjoy working outside in a range of weather conditions and be able to serve as a mature, healthy role model for children and teens.
- This person must be responsible, dedicated and organized.
- We are also open to shaping the apprenticeship to fit the applicant's skills and interest, including but not limited to community outreach, marketing, and/or non-profit management.
- **Successfully passing a background test and child abuse history clearance required before first day.**

To apply:

Please send a brief cover letter and resume to the Farm Team, at novickfarm@gmail.com, with the subject line: Urban Farm Apprenticeship.