

**Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Position Description**

Teen Agriculture Crew Member, Erickson Fields Preserve

Department/Division: Stewardship/Erickson Fields
Reports To: Erickson Farm Manager
Effective Date: 2024
Status: Part Time
Classification: Temporary

GENERAL SUMMARY:

Under the direction of the Erickson Fields Farm Manager, Farm Program Coordinator, and a MOFGA apprentice, the Teen Ag crew members will be responsible for tending the 4-acre vegetable garden at Erickson Fields Preserve. Teen Ag crew members will be involved in all aspects of the market garden management including garden bed preparation; planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops; washing, packing and distribution of produce; and garden cleanup. Teen Ag Crew members will learn a variety of sustainable agriculture skills and gain crucial job, team building and leadership experience. Crew members will also help maintain the grounds, trails and facilities at the preserve and are expected to be ambassadors for the public to MCHT's preserve.

ESSENTIAL INTERNSHIP FUNCTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS:

- ◆ With supervision of the Farm Manager, cares for the 4-acre Erickson Fields Preserve market garden to fulfill a contract with the Good Shepherd Foodbank for vegetables that supply the food relief system as well as sales to other wholesale accounts such as local public schools, a retirement community, and restaurants.
- ◆ During the school year, Teen Ag Crew Members work after school for 4 to 6 hours *per week* (April through June and September through early November). In the summer Teen Ag Crew Members work approximately 20 hours per work, from June through August.
- ◆ Actively engages with the farm, staff, and fellow Teen Ag Crew Members as part of a dynamic educational experience at Erickson Fields.
- ◆ Arrives promptly for work at scheduled time and puts in 100% effort.
- ◆ Serves as representative of Maine Coast Heritage Trust for those visiting the preserve and assists with other MCHT related tasks as needed (volunteer appreciation night; farm tours for public, etc.).

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

Teen Ag Crew Members must be 14-18 years old. No prior work experience is required, but candidates must show willingness to work hard and learn about sustainable agriculture. Persuasive cover letters, prior work or volunteer experience, grade reports, and extra-curricular activities will all be considered when evaluating candidates.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- ◆ Demonstrates strong work ethic, leadership capacity and enthusiasm for learning new skills
- ◆ Excitement for working outdoors in all weather conditions
- ◆ Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- ◆ Ability to promote and maintain positive attitude and public relations to interact with a wide variety of people
- ◆ Interest in sustainable agriculture and community engagement
- ◆ Ability to collaborate with peers and supervisors in the organization, this includes accepting positive feedback and constructive criticism to complete the job more effectively

WORKING CONDITIONS & PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Work is primarily outdoors in the field, greenhouse and unheated barns and can be required in all-weather conditions such as hot sun, wind, rain, and cold. Significant physical strength and endurance is required, including the ability to lift 40 lbs regularly. Awareness, respect, and care will need to be taken while working around and near equipment and agricultural machinery (tractors and implements). While most of worktime is spent outdoors on the farm site, time is also allocated for educational opportunities off-site. Occasional assistance with community events for the preserve and MCHT will be required.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to do this job. The above is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and duties required. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

***External and internal applicants, as well as position incumbents who become disabled as defined under the Americans With Disabilities Act, must be able to perform the essential job functions (as listed) either unaided or with the assistance of a reasonable accommodation to be determined by management on a case by case basis.**

This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee, and is subject to change by the employer, as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Maine Coast Heritage Trust does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation or any other characteristic protected by law.

TO APPLY: COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION AT ALDERMERE.ORG/TEEN-AG