

Farm Manager or Manager-in-Training

Green Earth Institute
10S404 Knoch Knolls Road
Naperville, Illinois 60565
Email: info@GreenEarthInstitute.org
Website: www.GreenEarthInstitute.org

Green Earth Institute is hiring a full-time farm manager who will be responsible for the operation of Green Earth Institute's organic vegetable farm. We are looking for a person to manage all aspects of this farm and develop it into a year-round operation. This is a hands-on farming position. Persons who are not fully qualified for the manager position but are capable, interested, and willing to make a multi-year commitment, may be considered for a manager-in-training role during the 2009 season.

Green Earth Institute is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to nutritional health and environmental sustainability. Our centerpiece is a 49-acre certified organic diversified vegetable farm located in the western suburbs of Chicago. We grow over 40 vegetables and herbs on approximately 14 acres, with the remainder in cover crops. 2009 will be our seventh year of growing organic vegetables for the community. Our major market is our very popular CSA, which now provides 280 boxes per week to a total of 500+ participating households counting biweekly participants and box-splitters. We have a long-term lease on the farm land at the McDonald Farm, owned by The Conservation Foundation, a local land trust.

Responsibilities include:

- Production planning
- Ordering seeds and supplies;
- Planting, weeding, pest and disease control, harvesting, washing, and soil building;
- Greenhouse transplant production and season-extension greenhouse production (to be developed);
- Hiring, supervising and training paid field crew and volunteers;
- Supplying produce for the CSA, and occasional wholesale to restaurants;
- Basic farm maintenance and infrastructure improvement;
- Farm record keeping, including paperwork and management of organic certification; and
- All other aspects of farm operation and management.

Requirements:

- At least 2 full seasons working on an organic vegetable farm; familiarity with crop rotations, soil fertility building, cover crops;
- Managerial experience, preferably supervising farm workers;
- Computer skills for communication and record keeping;
- Organizational, planning, and collaboration skills;
- Commitment to high standards in vegetable production, sales, and farm presentation.

Hours: Farmers' hours. Compensation: Salary commensurate with experience, health insurance included. Start date: March 1, 2009. On-farm housing arrangements are possible.

If interested, please email a resume and cover letter to:

Steve Tiwald
Executive Director
info@GreenEarthInstitute.org