

Braddock Farms Apprentice Application

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| General Apprenticeship Description |
| Grow Pittsburgh is a non-profit organization with a mission to teach people how to grow food and promote the benefits that gardens bring to our neighborhoods. At Braddock Farms, we grow vegetables and fruits naturally without synthetic pesticides or fertilizers. The produce is sold to the community of Braddock through a seasonal farm stand and a small Community Supported Agriculture program, as well as to restaurants in the Pittsburgh area.The apprentice will learn varied aspects of small-scale, sustainable, urban produce production, and will help plan for and execute the weekly sale of produce through various outlets. Additional tasks will include assisting with tours and volunteer groups |
| Qualifications |
| Experience growing produce for sale is not required. Applicants should have:* Strong interest in Grow Pittsburgh’s mission.
* Positive, outgoing, self-motivated and hard working.
* Excellent planning and organization skills
* Quick learner
* Willingness to work in the greenhouse, outdoors in the garden, and indoors in an office setting
* Desire to interact and work with people on a daily basis
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| Apprenticeship Details |
| Hours Schedule | This apprenticeship averages 34 hours/week **March & April:**Monday 9-4Tuesday 9-4Wednesday 9-4Thursday 9-4Friday 9-3**May - September:**Sunday 7-2Monday 7-2Tuesday 7-2Wednesday 7-2Thursday 7-1alternating with:Tuesday 7-2Wednesday 7-2Thursday 7-2Friday 7-2Saturday 9-3**October:**Sunday 8-3Monday 8-3Tuesday 8-3Wednesday 8-3Thursday 8-2Saturday 9-3alternating with:Tuesday 8-3Wednesday 8-3Thursday 8-3Friday 8-3 |
| Duration | March 9 , 2015- October 30, 2015 |
| Location | The apprentice will be based at Braddock Farms in Braddock and the greenhouse in Point Breeze |
| Compensation | $10/hour |
| Applicant Information |
| Name: |
| Address: |
| Phone Number: |
| Email Address: |
| Work Experience |
| Please list your employment history. This may include volunteer work experience. |
| Position | Employer | Dates of Employment | Description of Responsibilities |
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| Questions |
| Please respond to these questions in the space provided. If you need more space, feel free to use the lines on the back page of the application. |
| What are your hobbies and personal interests? |  |
| Why are you interested in this position?  |  |
| What specific characteristics, personality traits or skills make you a strong candidate for the apprenticeship? |  |
| What do you hope to do in the future and how might this apprenticeship help you reach your future goals? |  |
| References |  |  |  |
| Please list the contact information for two different people that can be contacted to provide either character or employment references (at least one employment reference). If you do not have an appropriate employment reference please include an education reference (i.e. past teacher). Note: References will not be contacted until after an in-person interview has taken place. |
| **Reference 1 :*** personal/character reference
* Employment reference
* Education reference
 |
| Reference Name |  |
| Relationship to Applicant (former employer, teacher,etc…) |  |
| Reference Phone number |  |
| Reference email address (optional) |  |
| **Reference 2 :*** personal/character reference
* Employment reference
* Education reference
 |
| Reference Name |  |
| Relationship to Applicant (former employer, teacher,etc…) |  |
| Reference Phone number |  |
| Reference email address (optional) |  |
| To Apply |
| **Deadline:** All applications must be received by January 12, 2015.**Option 1:**  Email a completed application to Marshall Hart at: marshall@growpittsburgh.orgPlease note in your email subject line: “Braddock Farms Apprentice Application”**Option 2:** Mail or deliver a completed application to Marshall Hart at:Marshall HartGrow Pittsburgh6587 Hamilton Ave. #2WPittsburgh, PA 15206 |

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**Skills the Apprentice Can Expect to Learn**

*Planning*

* Seed selection and estimation of quantity needed
* Crop rotation
* Soil test interpretation

*Soil Building*

* Creating and using compost
* Adding amendments
* Mulching
* Cover cropping

*Planting*

* Bed preparation
* Direct-seeding techniques
* Transplanting techniques
* Seeding for Transplants
* Propagation from cuttings
* Understanding and following seeding schedules
* Succession planting

*Crop Maintenance*

* Weed ID and weeding tactics
* Cultivation
* Watering and irrigation
* Trellising
* Fertilizing
* Pruning and dividing perennial crops
* Crop management based on growing conditions
* Correct tool and equipment usage and maintenance
* Season extension practices

*Pests, Beneficials, & Disease*

* Common vegetable pest and beneficial insect ID
* Common vegetable disease ID
* Control of pests and disease through organic management techniques

*Harvesting and Processing*

* How and when to harvest
* GP produce specifications, including processing and packaging guidelines

*Marketing*

* understand general marketing techniques used to distribute farm produce through:
	+ Farm Stand: direct to customer
	+ CSA: direct to customer
	+ Penn’s Corner Farm Alliance: restaurant and individual customer sales through a farm cooperative
	+ Direct to restaurant
* Direct interaction with customers and restaurants

*Record-Keeping and Evaluation*

* Day to day, on-farm record keeping
* Seed inventory
* End of season variety evaluation

*General*

* Understanding of main tenets of organic farming
* Comprehension of key vocabulary terms
* Awareness of current organic growing philosophies