Job Description

**Urban Agriculture Technician**

The Urban Agriculture Technician position is a grant funded, temporary employment position with a primary role of managing a teaching farm operated by Williamsburg Community Growers (WCG), Colonial SWCD’s close partner in conservation and urban agriculture. This is an entirely field-based position; any administrative or computer-based work must be completed remotely. This employment position is not eligible for healthcare or retirement benefits and is not exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act.

**Principal duties include**:

* Implement all aspects of production planning, planting, cultivation, pest management, irrigation, harvesting, and post-harvest handling on the WCG teaching farm located in Williamsburg, VA.
* Assist with development of a sustainable CSA model and/or on farm sales.
* Train volunteers in partnership with the WCG Volunteer Coordinator.
* Support special events and administrative tasks as needed.
* Assist with implementation of grant objectives

**Secondary duties include**:

* Network within and provide technical expertise to the urban agriculture community, including the Grove community in James City County, the Forest Hill Park neighborhood in the City of Williamsburg, and other identified Opportunity Zones.

**Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

* Knowledge of ecological farming practices
* First-hand working knowledge of the year-round workflow of a production farm
* Knowledge of sustainable soil and water conservation practices, crop rotation, companion planting, composting, soil amendment, cover crops, pollinators, eco-friendly pest management, irrigation, and food safety best practices
* Excellent communication skills (oral and written)
* Ability to work independently and schedule time in an efficient manner.
* Ability to maintain effective working relationships with others.

**Desirable Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

* Basic construction skills
* Ability to use a tractor, farming equipment, and hand and power tools.
* Knowledge of and experience with food distribution and delivery systems (CSA, on farm sales, mobile markets, etc.)

This temporary position is offered for two years, beginning September 2021 and ending June 2023. Weekly work schedules will be flexible to accommodate weather issues and other related conflicts; however, the Technician is expected to work approximately 20 hours per week and cannot exceed 37 hours per week. Total hours for the two years of employment not to exceed 2,080. Accurate timesheets will be maintained by the Technician and reviewed by the District Manager regularly.

Must be able to lift 50+ pounds regularly and be comfortable working outside during hot, humid, cold, windy, and inclement weather. Work environment includes using essential tools for farming with mechanical moving parts, fertilizers, herbicides, soil amendments and other chemicals, and exposure to pests and wildlife. A bachelor’s degree in agriculture, biology, conservation, or related field is preferred. Applicant must have a valid Virginia driver’s license and must be willing to provide their own transportation on the job.