

**Title:** Learning Garden Volunteer

**Description:** The Learning Garden Team is responsible for the care, cultivation and maintenance of the Learning Garden. This garden gives program participants the opportunity to experience gardening and make a personal connect to this time honored tradition. The Learning Garden, and its team, directly support the educational programming at Prescott Farm and are pivotal to our mission.

**Time needed:**

**Commitment:** 1-3 hours each week for tending the gardens

**Duration:** February through October

**Days:** One or more days a week depending on interest. (the garden need to be tended every other day by a volunteer)

**Time:** Between dawn and dusk.

**Tasks and Responsibilities:** Care and maintenance of the learning garden.

- **Daily:** Open fence, weeding, watering, getting out tools, log timesheet
- **Weekly:** Treating for problem insects, mulching, soil additives (lime, blood meal, leaves, etc.)
- **Seasonal Tasks:**
  - **February:** Cleaning seed trays
  - **March:** Starting seeds
  - **April:** Turing over beds, early planting, covering plants when needed, repairing things
  - **May:** Planting, prepping beds, testing soil, covering plants when needed
  - **June:** Putting in extra support for plants (frames, stocks, netting, etc.), thinning
  - **July:** Harvesting, canning or dehydrating
  - **August:** Harvesting, canning or dehydrating
  - **September:** Harvesting, canning or dehydrating
  - **October:** Winterizing gardens, turning over A-frames, planting winter crops, draining hoses, putting tools away.
  - **Winter (November through January):** Garden Planning Meetings: Review what grew well, what we want to change, ideas for new or different species, ideas for equipment improvements (drip hose, new shovel, etc.), checking in with educators for what they need, deciding what to plant, charting out what will grow where, ordering seeds

**Qualifications:** Basic knowledge of gardening. The ability to do garden work which includes the ability to lift 30lbs, bend over, crouch, crawl, work outside, and walk on uneven surfaces without assistance. The desire and the ability to learn more about gardening.

**Training:** Garden volunteers must attend at least one garden related Service Learning Opportunity. Other training can be provided by a Lead Volunteer as needed.

**Safety:** Volunteers will be working outside so it is necessary them to bring clothes appropriate for the weather. Bug repellent and sunscreen and/or sun hat are also suggested. Gloves are suggested when working with prickly or rough vegetation.

**Worksite:** Learning Garden

**Special Projects:** Special projects relating to the Learning Garden and Prescott Farm's mission may be available.