



Job Posting: Vegetable Gardener - Entry Level

Company Profile

The Backyard Urban Farm Company (BUFCO) is an award winning, family-run, organic vegetable landscaping company that designs, installs, plants and maintains edible and native pollinator flower gardens for residential and commercial clients throughout the Toronto area. Our mission is to inspire, educate and empower urbanites to grow their own food and help them to reconnect with nature.

We develop and elevate committed, self-motivated nature-lovers who want to build a career in the organic land care profession. We provide exciting opportunities for all team members to enhance their skills, develop their interests, and test their limits in an encouraging, supportive, equitable and fun environment. We strongly value and believe in diversity, and encourage all to apply. If the opportunity to join our team excites you, and you are driven to provide excellence in every endeavor, then BUFCO is the home for you.

Position Summary:

As a BUFCO Vegetable Gardener you report to the Garden Supervisor. You are responsible for working as part of the gardening team, planting and maintaining beautiful, bountiful, incredible, edible gardens, as well as some pollinator and ornamental gardens. You will increase your already existing knowledge of organic growing methodologies and sustainable practices, and will assist the Garden Supervisor in helping to guide and coach our clients on basic vegetable, flower, and ornamental garden care.

Vegetable gardening is new to many of our clients who will look to the Gardening Team for information and inspiration. You will provide the highest quality work with great attention to detail, and participate in bringing a strong, unique aesthetic vision to their garden.

Responsibilities:

- Plant, maintain, and harvest vegetable and pollinator gardens.
- Taking detailed notes of work accomplished and materials used during every client visit.
- Load and prepare the truck for daily activities.
- Drive and/or help navigate from location to location.
- Assist in maintaining seed, seedlings, and gardening input inventories.
- Maintain quality service by exhibiting and fulfilling BUFCO's high standards.
- Maintain good working condition of all gardening tools, supplies, storage facilities including maintaining a clean, organized, safe and presentable work vehicle.
- Maintain and organize physical and digital client folders.
- Assist in other garden care, as well as attending to administrative and other organizational tasks as requested.
- Assist in the care and maintenance of seedlings in our greenhouse as needed.
- Participate in larger garden infrastructure and landscaping installations.

Experience:

- Some gardening experience, horticulture training.
- At least 1-year experience working in vegetable gardens, including your own home-based gardens.
- Some knowledge of organic gardening practices including plant identification, pest and disease recognition and remediation.

Skills and Qualifications:

- A valid G-class license and clean driving record is required.
- An excellent listener with strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Reliable and punctual.
- Good knowledge of the Toronto area with the ability to attend a variety of locations on your own.
- Able to take direction, and follow through accurately.
- Able to work cooperatively in a team environment and as well independently.
- Able to take initiative and pursue self-directed tasks.
- Intermediate knowledge of technology and smart phone savvy.
- Experience with Google Suite (Drive, Sheets, Docs, Calendar, Maps) is a plus.
- Able to operate a variety of vehicles with confidence, including small trucks/vans.

Assets:

- First Aid and Health and Safety training is beneficial.
- Passionate about growing food and urban agriculture.
- A love of being outdoors, rain or shine.
- Able to be adaptable and flexible with changing weather and daily schedules, accepting that some days may be longer than other days.
- Some weekend work may be required.
- Photography skills are an asset.
- Customer service experience is an asset.

Other:

- This position may be eligible for the Landscape Ontario [Horticultural Technician 441C Apprenticeship Program](#).
- With apologies, only successful applicants will be contacted.

Posting Date: January 8, 2024

Please submit all resumes to: hr@bufco.ca

Compensation: Hourly range is \$19.00 - \$21.00 per hour

Position: Seasonal, Full-time, April - June with possibility of extension