



# Job Posting: Greenhouse Technician

## **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 the BUFCO Greenhouse Technician, you will report to the Garden Manager. You are an avid plant lover, passionate about caring for and nurturing plants, and excited about urban agriculture. You are familiar with ecological and organic techniques of growing food. You are motivated and enthusiastic and enjoy working in both a team environment or on your own.

You are a fast learner with a high aptitude for precision and efficiency. You are extremely well organized. You embrace the opportunity to build new systems and are patient with the process of testing them to perfection. You tackle repetitive tasks with enthusiasm, and challenge yourself to maximize efficiencies.

## **Responsibilities:**

Care and maintenance of thousands of vegetable, herb, fruit and flower seedlings starting from seed:

- Sowing and potting up seedlings in a systematic manner.
- Precise watering according to each plant's needs.
- Monitoring for disease, pests, and other changes in plant health.
- Preventing conditions that compromise plant health
- Advocating for plant care, ensuring plants are cared for over weekends and holidays.
- Maintain the greenhouse and nursery, ensuring it is clean, neat, tidy, and well organized.

Data entry and tracking:

- Accurately reporting and updating germination status in a systemized manner.
- Documenting observations.
- Updating and tracking inventory.
- Labeling and arranging trays methodically and systematically.
- Assembling and attaching plant labels.

- Pack and prepare seedling orders for clients and customer pick-up, delivery.

Other:

- Assist with in-the-field garden installations and planting/gardening when requested.

**Experience:**

- You have a minimum of 1 year of professional experience working in a greenhouse or nursery. You have experience with, and understanding of the benefits of organic vegetable growing methods.
- You have practical, hands-on experience growing and caring for hundreds of seedlings started from seed resulting in basic vegetable plant care, plant/seed identification, and general gardening knowledge.
- You are a proven solutions-oriented thinker, and have experience diagnosing, troubleshooting and overcoming plant health issues.
- You are confident working with spreadsheets such as Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets. You can leverage basic and intermediate level spreadsheet functionality to document your observations and process, both qualitatively and quantitatively.
- You are disciplined, reliable, methodical and punctual with updating records.
- You thrive in a fast-paced, dynamic working environment, and are familiar with communication and coordination of tasks through use of Google Drive and shared documents.

**Skills and Qualifications:**

- Intermediate to advance knowledge of technology and smart phone savvy.
- Experienced with spreadsheets, particularly Google Sheets and Excel.
- Experienced with Google Suite (Drive, Sheets, Docs, Calendar, Maps)

**Assets:**

- A clean driving record is required, a valid G-class license is beneficial.
- First Aid and Health and Safety training is beneficial.
- An excellent listener with strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Passionate about growing food and urban agriculture.
- Customer service experience is an asset.
- Able to take initiative, pursue self-directed tasks, and work independently.
- Adaptable and flexible with changing weather and daily schedules, accepting that some days may be longer than other days.
- Able to maintain a solutions-oriented disposition even during stressful situations.
- Some weekend work may be required.

**Other:**

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

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**Posting Date:** January 8, 2024

**Please submit all resumes to:** Human Resources, [hr@bufco.ca](mailto:hr@bufco.ca)

**Compensation:** Hourly range is \$24.00 to \$26.00 per hour

**Position:** Seasonal, Full-time from March to June with possibility of extension