



# 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 and supervise an Entry Level Greenhouse laborer. 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:

- Sow and pot up seedlings in a systematic manner.
- Ensure junior laborer(s) are sowing, watering and potting up to company standards.
- Precise water according to each plant's needs.
- Monitor for disease, pests, and other changes in plant health.
- Prevent conditions that compromise plant health.
- Advocate for plant care, ensure plants are cared for over weekends and holidays.
- Maintain the greenhouse and nursery, ensure it is clean, neat, tidy, and well organized.

Retail data entry, tracking, coordination:

- Accurately report and update germination status in a systemized manner.
- Document observations.
- Update and track inventory.
- Label and arrange trays methodically and systematically.

- Assemble and attach plant labels.
- Pack and prepare seedling orders for clients and customer pick-up, delivery.
- Assist and engage with customers picking up, prevent customers from entering greenhouse.

**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.
- A proven leader who is a confident delegator of tasks.
- 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, 2025

**Please submit all resumes to:** Human Resources, hr@bufco.ca

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

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