



a 501(c)3 organization since 2012

Apprenticeship-style learning and jobs in a neurodiverse community.

Farmer / Gardener

Pay Range: \$14 - \$17 per hour, depending on experience

Hours: Part-time, flexible, 10-30 hours per week, w2

Do you love plants, flowers, and working in a garden? Are you new to small-scale farming, working on garden teams, and/or flower farming? Or are you an experienced farmer/gardener that would love to contribute to a growing nonprofit organization, learn about cut flower production and artisanal farm products? Legacy Farms is in need of part-time farmers and gardeners available to work a consistent part-time schedule. We welcome applicants who are new to gardening, as well as experienced gardeners and flower farmers who would like to help us grow!

Legacy Farms is a small non-profit with gardens at Temple Hall Farm Regional Park & Fabboli Cellars, just outside of Leesburg. Our neurodiverse team of staff, mentors, and apprentices grow and deliver herbs, flowers, and vegetables to area businesses and food pantries. The nonprofit offers a vocational training program for neurodivergent individuals, focused on job skills training, mentoring, and facilitating increased personal development for neurodivergent individuals ages 16+. Legacy Farms is launching a profit-focused flower business based on its two year track record of delivering a robust floral CSA called Legacy Blooms. The objective of this floral business, over time, will be to generate revenue sufficient to self-fund the nonprofit's vocational training programs and goals for supporting neurodiversity.

We are seeking a Farmer / Gardener that can work on planting, growing and optimizing our flower fields, as well as harvesting and preparing floral stems for cool storage on a weekly basis. Legacy Farms' flowers are farmed on a portion of .5 acres of growing space split between our gardens at Temple Hall and Fabboli Cellars on Limestone School Road. Floral production begins in garden and is completed in our floral production barn on Spinks Ferry Road.

Legacy Farms is unique in that both its vocational program and revenue-generating flower business focus on a relational work model, including mindfulness and positive personal interaction. Staff positions are offered in an organized, prepared environment that creates the conditions for leadership and initiative to emerge organically. This position offers an exceptional growth opportunity for an individual interested in working with a Loudoun County nonprofit and learning as they participate in the launch of a new floral business, with many creative opportunities over time.

Overview:

The Farmer / Gardener works on a small team focused on growing and harvesting flowers alongside other farmers and designers, and reports to the Assistant Farm Program Manager who is in charge of overseeing the nonprofit's gardens and weekly floral production goals. The person in this position will also report to the Executive Director of the nonprofit, who is developing the Legacy Blooms product and program, and the Floral Program Manager who is overseeing the bouquet production processes each week.

The Farmer / Gardener is responsible for day-to-day fieldwork on a small team that works in the floral garden: prepping beds, planting, and fertilization, as well as turning over the floral garden beds in a timely manner when they have stopped producing for effective succession planting of new flowers for maximum yield. On a weekly basis during bloom season, they will also harvest and prep a select set of floral stems according to instructions from the bouquet production team, so that flowers are ready to be placed in cool storage for next-day bouquet bundling by the design team.

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The Farmer / Gardener works collaboratively to assess needs in the garden and ensure the successful production of various crops. They may also assist in the nonprofit's core vocational program where vegetables, herbs, and a portion of the nonprofit's flowers are currently grown. And they may work alongside apprentices and volunteers to ensure productivity, personal engagement, and proper use of the flower beds. There are many growth opportunities for this individual based on their area of interest and talent: from learning the flower business, to working on a nonprofit mission, to collaborating on expansion, design, and production of future sites and corresponding new launches of flower fields, greenhouses, high tunnels, coolers, production facilities, and agricultural fields.

This position is being offered during Legacy Farms' foundational year for launching our Legacy Blooms revenue-generating pilot alongside our established vocational program, and as such offers the opportunity to be a founding member of an emerging nonprofit initiative with an opportunity to contribute to the definition and development of long-term growth goals.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Work with flower farmers of various ages, abilities, and backgrounds to meet garden and product goals.
- Ensure that proper cutting, conditioning, and storage procedures are followed for each flower.
- Work alongside other farmers to complete garden management for effective crop cultivation including: bed preparation, planting, weeding, thinning, cultivating, pruning, trellising, harvesting, prepping product, loading, delivering, and unloading, mowing, light construction/facility maintenance.
- Survey fields for weekly floral harvest forecast, and collaborate with managers to determine next week's cutting schedule.
- Participate in crop planning, ordering, materials needs, and planting schedule.
- Once greenhouses, high tunnels, coolers, and production areas are sited, assist with flower propagation and maintenance
- Ensure volunteers and apprentices understand Legacy Farms' mission and the role the flower program plays within it

Qualifications:

- Experience working with plants, preferably flowers (but not required), and enjoyment of physical work in the garden
- Basic working knowledge or ability to learn, comprehend, and implement floral concepts and production requirements
- Good attention to detail and careful handling, so that proper cutting, conditioning and storage procedures are followed for each flower type
- Ability to balance attention to detail with daily production demands, so that flowers are fully prepped for designers
- Organized, with a willingness to research, troubleshoot, learn new processes, implement garden projects
- Tractor, misc. mower, trimmer, power equipment experience preferred
- Ability to pass a background check

Other Beneficial Experience:

- Understanding of or interest in learning about issues surrounding neurodiversity empowerment.
- Enthusiasm for entrepreneurship and small business development, and/or a background in mindfulness practice (not required, but useful in understanding our philosophy of approach)

Work Environment and Physical Demands:

- Strenuous outdoor and indoor activities throughout the growing season, beginning in February/March and extending into December.
- Outdoor work will be performed in the morning with indoor production during the afternoon to accommodate for high heat conditions.

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- Ability to lift 20-40 lbs frequently, 50 pounds occasionally
- Ability to operate equipment such as lawn mowers, string trimmers, backpack blower, and tractors
- Ability to move bulk product in the fields, from fields to production areas

Work Schedule:

This is a 10-30 hour per week w2 position with the possibility of growing to a full-time position. Mondays and Wednesdays as a basis, plus 1-3 other days available with flexibility to determine those days and hours based on organization's need and applicant's schedule. The schedule will be heavier during the growing season from March to November. During the months of December-February, work will be balanced among required outdoor activity, indoor production, and planning. Work schedule will be adjusted as needed to accommodate the seasonal demands of production.

This position offers exceptional opportunity for growth for the right candidate interested in agriculture and flower farming, and taking an early role rapidly growing nonprofit organization in Loudoun County.

Location: On-site at Legacy Farms' various garden and production locations on Limestone School Road in Leesburg, Virginia, attendance at some community events related to the nonprofit mission.

Temple Hall Regional Park, 15855 Limestone School Rd, Leesburg, VA 20176
Fabbioli Cellars, 15669 Limestone School Rd, Leesburg, VA 20176

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@legacyfarms8195>
[LegacyFarmsVirginia.org](https://www.legacyfarmsvirginia.org)

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