

Haliburton Community Organic Farm

Seeking Apprentice Market Gardener(s) for 2010

741 Haliburton Rd
Victoria BC V8Y 1H7
Voice mail: (250) 658-0758
Email :info@haliburtonfarm.org
Web site: <http://www.haliburtonfarm.org/>

Haliburton Community Organic Farm is located in Victoria, BC. The land is owned by the District of Saanich and leased to the Haliburton Community Organic Farm Society. In turn, the Society rents land to 3 farm businesses and uses part of the land to grow produce and for education purposes. We are successful because of collaboration, sharing, openness, common goals, and good communication. We are a joyful, positive, productive community member.

We are seeking a volunteer Apprentice Market Gardener to run our market garden – from seed to sale - on about 1 acre of our Society land in 2010. See below for more info on learning opportunities and compensation. If you are interested in this opportunity, you are welcome to contact our 2009 volunteer Market Gardeners to ask about their experience.

Farm information:

- Certified organic farm
- 3 farm businesses – work co-operatively – Terralicious (gardening & cooking school); H&R Veggies (produce, duck eggs, seeds); Sunbird Farms (produce, cut flowers, seeds)
- On-site farm stand and sales at local markets
- Established CSA
- New greenhouse, ready for seed starts in February. Full business plan developed, it just needs to be implemented.
- Irrigation in place, compost system started this fall
- On-site biodiversity projects and wetland restoration in progress
- Weekly community volunteers

What the Market Gardener can expect:

- Experience managing a market garden, from seed to sale, including record keeping, organic certification processes, and public communication, and education
- An opportunity to manage a market garden to try out your ideas without risk – we do ask that there be some income to the Society as we rely on produce sales, but we are very open to any ideas you have.
- Society pays for seeds and plants up to a determined amount
- Opportunity to work with and learn from 6 experienced certified organic farmers,
- Labour support provided by weekly community volunteers
- About 20 – 40 hours time commitment per week depending on time of year and type of garden you plan

Compensation

As we are a not-for-profit Society our funds are tight. However, we are open to negotiations and have a few suggestions:

- Part of the Society lands can be available for growing personal produce
- Potential to negotiate commission or related contract based on sales.