

Cooperative Extension Tompkins County

Volunteer Job Description

Volunteer Title: Seed to Supper Educator

Position Summary:

Seed to Supper Educators will lead a 6-week Seed to Supper Basic Gardening series for beginners gardening on a budget. Classes will be held throughout Tompkins County in collaboration with host agencies.

Responsibilities:

- Attend 2 Seed to Supper training sessions at CCE Tompkins: Thursday, Feb 27th 5:30-8:00 & *Saturday Feb. 29th 10am-4pm*
- Communicate with host agencies in their communities to arrange class dates and logistics
- Handles class registrations and communicate with participants before classes start
- Run series of 6 Seed to Supper classes to groups of 5-15 adults in community locations in April-May
- Cover all information in the course, providing hands-on demonstration of materials whenever possible
- Pick up gardening materials for participants (vegetable seedlings, compost, soil and buckets) at CCE in late May for distribution at final classes
- Distribute and collect course evaluations form participants
- Complete an end-of-course evaluation
- Return all course materials from Cornell Cooperative Extension

Qualifications:

- Strong interpersonal skills and communication skills
- A strong interest in supporting community food security
- Gardening or agricultural experience, preferably experience gardening in the Northeast
- Experience working with people from diverse economic, racial and cultural backgrounds
- Experience teaching adult learners

Time Commitment:

- Attend training sessions: 8.5 hours
- Review curriculum materials: 6-8 hours (Volunteers will receive the Seed to Supper curriculum materials at the first training session in February and will be expected to review them in time for the second training session in March). The materials consist of six PowerPoint presentations and the participant gardening manual.
- Leading sessions: Approximately 3 hours per week, including set up and clean up for classes (not including travel time to and from host location)

Resources Provided:

- Ongoing mentoring, supervision, evaluation and training will be provided as needed by Cornell Cooperative Extension
- All course materials – outline, visuals, handouts, etc. will be provided

*Note: Cornell Cooperative Extension does not reimburse expenses incurred by volunteers in driving to the course (gas, parking fees, tickets or costs resulting from an accident).

How does this program help increase food security in Tompkins County?

At Cornell Cooperative Extension, one of our goals is to create a long-term solution to hunger by giving

educators support participants as they learn to plan, plant and harvest their own fresh garden produce—ultimately increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables and improving overall food security.

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