

Organic Farm Internships

APPLY NOW!

Our 300 acre farm is located in Cambridge, Vermont. The crop land is river bottom flats, between rolling hills and streams. We grow certified organic vegetables, flowers and herbs for our 200 member CSA, retail farm stand, wholesale business, health food stores, natural food stores and two Farmers Markets. We also sell bedding plants, and certified organic hay. We have 3 greenhouses and 250 egg laying chickens. Our family of 6 is shrinking, as our children move toward their own careers.

Apprenticeship Opportunity -We are looking for 6 apprentices for the 2008 growing season. The positions are intended for those interested in organic farming. While we enjoy our work we also expect employees to be responsible and hard working. We encourage apprentices to expand their educational experience by experimenting with their own farm project if they choose.

Work expectations - Apprentices will be expected to work 10hrs /day, 5 1/2 days & every third weekend, lift 50 lb feed bags, be assertive, enthusiastic, work alone or as a team, dress for all weather conditions and have fun while doing their jobs. The apprentice should commit for a minimum of 14 weeks, preferably the whole season (May 15 thru Oct 31). The work includes instruction, implementation, feedback and weekly reviews. Work includes all aspects of growing from seed starts to post harvest handling and sales.

Skills learned – seeding, transplanting, hoeing, weeding, cultivating, using row covers, crop rotation, insect control, greenhouse operations, irrigation, bed preparation, composting, harvesting, bunching, storage, handling, packaging, haying, rotational grazing, egg collection, cleaning and packing, marketing, farmers market, communication with CSA members and personal evaluation. Special areas of focus are considered upon request.

Educational experience - We believe you will learn from experience everything you need to know about operating your own farm. You must attend and participate in weekly farm meetings. Interns are encouraged to self direct their own farm project on their time off, with our approval and possible assistance if necessary.

Wages and Housing - Apprentices receive a stipend of \$700/month, and on farm shared housing. You must maintain personal hygiene and neatness in a group living arrangement. Use of a kitchen, utilities, surplus organic vegetables, flowers, and herbs are also offered. We also offer a tent site (3 miles offsite) to those that need a little more space from the workplace. Performance and production based bonuses are given bi-weekly.

Nearby – We are located 5 miles from Smugglers Notch Resort and Jeffersonville with restaurants and pubs. Local activities range from biking, hiking, boating, fishing, cliff climbing to just enjoying the beautiful Vermont scenery. Stowe is ½ hr, Burlington is 40 minutes, and Canada is 2 hrs.

If you think that our apprentice program would be a good fit for you, send us a resume and a cover letter explaining the reason you want to work as an apprentice on our farm, what you like to do in your free time, at least 2 references who can describe your work habits and performance, and an optional – farm project of particular interest.

Email: valleydream@wildblue.net or Attn: Anne Tisbert or Wendy Hall
Valley Dream Farm LLC
5901 Pleasant Valley Rd
Cambridge, VT 05444