

Cornish Art Colony Estate Gardener/Horticulturist Position Description

Seeking gardener for private, historic estate in the heart of the Cornish Art Colony in Cornish, New Hampshire. The property includes a formal Italian perennial garden, rose garden, rock garden, house perimeter gardens and landscaped walkways through extensive grounds designed by Charles Platt. The gardens consist of perennials, hedges, shrubs, vines, mature trees, lawns and a small number of potted annual plantings.

Built in 1905, this historic house and grounds have been well maintained. The Estate Gardener/Horticulturist will assume responsibility for continuing this good maintenance with an on-going respect for the history and original design of the gardens and property. The Estate Gardener will collaborate with the owner to ensure this continuity. The Estate Gardener should have a keen interest in and knowledge of horticultural best practices and techniques, landscape design and an eye for detail. Knowledge of local climate and area history are a plus.

This position reports to the owner and works with the Estate Caretaker and occasional seasonal help and contractors.

Duties & Responsibilities

1. Garden oversight and maintenance of the permanent and seasonal plantings
 - a. Weeding, watering, fertilizing, mulching, dead-heading transplanting, pruning
 - b. Monitor pests and diseases and address as needed
 - c. Consult on turf management and tree and vine maintenance
2. Walkway Maintenance
 - a. Weeding/edging
 - b. Gravel raking
3. Assist Estate Caretaker with non-horticultural projects
 - a. Brush pick-up
 - b. Fencing/light carpentry
 - c. Special event preparation such as garden tours
4. Operate utility vehicle and standard garden power tools such as string trimmers, hedge trimmers and leaf blowers

Work Conditions

1. Primarily outdoor physical work in all weather conditions
2. Proper footwear is required
3. Must be able to traverse uneven ground and moderate to difficult site conditions
4. Must be able to lift 50 pounds

Compensation & Benefits

1. At a minimum, this is a seasonal (April – Oct) hourly position (30-40 hours/week)
2. Hourly rate dependent upon experience
3. Gardening hours and days of week are flexible
4. Potential for additional, year-round position for a candidate with knowledge of farming, large animal care and a flexible attitude.
5. Hourly summer position includes 3 holidays. Year-round position includes holidays and paid time off

Qualifications; Skills, Education and Experience

1. Passionate commitment to the integrity and maintenance of the garden and property
2. Two or Four-year degree or certificate in horticulture or related field, or equivalent combination of training, skills and experience.
3. Minimum 2-4 years additional work experience in the field of horticulture; preferably garden and landscape maintenance
4. Aptitude and willingness to collaborate, follow directions, and communicate clearly
5. Ability and inclination to research and problem-solve as needed
6. Ability to manage multiple tasks.
7. Self-directed once trained
8. Able and willing to learn and follow Estate traditions and best practices.
9. Professional, work-related references a must

To Apply

- Send your resume, cover letter and three garden-related professional references to ginger.bulkeley@gmail.com