

Regional Environmental Council

Fall UGROW Intern

Dates: Start date week of September 14th, end date mid December, must commit to a minimum of 10 consistent hours per week (see schedule section.)

Who We Are:

The Regional Environmental Council (REC) is a food justice organization that has been working in Worcester for fifty years. Our mission is to bring people together to create a just food system and to build healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities in Worcester, MA and beyond. Our programs include Community and Mobile Farmers Markets, our youth employment urban agriculture program (YouthGROW), and our Community and School Gardens Network (UGROW). The focus of this internship is the REC Community and School Gardens Network (UGROW). UGROW supports 80+ member gardens in the city of Worcester, including neighborhood gardens, school/learning gardens, organizational/institutional gardens, and urban farms. We provide direct resources for gardeners, technical assistance, and educational and community-building programming.

We are seeking a UGROW Gardens Intern to help support the UGROW Network's school and community gardens during the Fall. This internship opportunity will include a blend of supporting garden education programming, providing needed garden maintenance and support, as well as supporting community programs and group volunteer days. Interns can expect to experience a mix of programming in schools with WPS students, independent gardening tasks, and group work with REC staff/youth/volunteers.

Because our program supports a network of 80+ community and school garden locations across the city and programming locations are highly variable week to week, we are only able to consider candidates who have access to reliable transportation.

Compensation:

All internships are unpaid but provide invaluable insight into: urban agriculture, food justice, environmental justice, non-profit management, and customer service. Interns will learn what it is like working in a hugely diverse city like Worcester and the importance of honoring food justice by working in low-income, food-insecure neighborhoods. Interns are an integral part to the success of the REC's programs and are part of what makes our programs sustainable. If available through your educational institution, the REC is willing to help interns obtain credit for their work with us.

Schedule

Programming primarily takes place during the following timeblocks. **Strong candidates will be available for at least 10 hours per week within the following time blocks.**

September, October: Tuesday-Friday, 9AM - 1 PM, Tuesdays 3- 6 PM (school based programming)

September-December: Once monthly Wednesday evening programming 4-7 PM (Community workshops)

November, December: Fridays, 8-12 (Mobile Market visits to pre-school sites)

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Responsibilities:

- Provide support for in person garden programming with Worcester Public Schools and Head Start students including fall planting activities
- Assist with distribution and delivery of seeds, and garden supplies to our 80+ community and school garden sites
- Assisting with garden cleanups
- Work alongside REC staff to support new garden builds at schools and community gardens
- Helping with setup and breakdown of community events
- Assisting with winter Mobile Farmer's Markets in the Worcester Head Starts

Skills Required:

- Must have access to car and be willing to drive to garden sites in Worcester
- Must be comfortable and enjoy working outside
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively with program staff
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, with demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with people of diverse backgrounds
- Commitment to the mission, vision, and values of the REC

Additional Preferred Skills:

- Bi/multilingual (Spanish, Nepali, etc.)
- Experience/knowledge of gardening

How To Apply:

To be considered for this position, please send a resume and a brief description of your goals for the internship and detailed availability to Noel Allen at noel@recworchester.org by **September 4th**. Candidates will be considered on a rolling basis. If you need to confirm an internship prior to that date, please indicate in your cover letter. Please use Fall Gardens Intern as the email subject.

The REC is an equal opportunity employer committed to an inclusive workplace. People of color are strongly encouraged to apply. The REC does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sex, ancestry, citizenship status, mental or physical disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, veteran or military status.