

Job Announcement: Organic Educator Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association



The Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association announces an opening for an **Organic Educator**. The Organic Educator will be responsible for providing direct technical assistance to organic farmers with various levels of experience and for developing and implementing educational programming work (workshops, webinars, field days) focusing on organic production.

Responsibilities

- Help organic and aspiring organic farmers by answering questions and providing informational resources
- Design and implement various organic education programs, including workshops and webinars
- Design and administer OEFFA's summer farm tours series
- Facilitate a farmer-to-farmer knowledge network to connect farmers with information needs to those who can help them
- Serve as liaison between OEFFA and various other organizations, including OSU-Extension's Sustainable Agriculture Team, NRCS, OPGMA, and others
- Coordinate OEFFA's apprenticeship program
- Provide occasional contributions to OEFFA's newsletter
- Assist with publicity of OEFFA's programs
- Oversee organic production content on the OEFFA website
- As needed, assist in writing grants for organic education programs

Qualifications: We seek someone with both the education and the experience to outstandingly perform the duties of this position. As such, we are looking for the rare individual who has deep personal knowledge of organic production, is adept at locating appropriate information resources, has an appreciation both for farmer knowledge and a respect for scientific research, and who also has the administrative and organizational skills to successfully develop, promote, and implement formal educational programs. Qualifications include:

- Background and experience in organic crop or horticultural production is essential; additional background in organic livestock production highly desirable
- Minimally, a B.S. or B.A. in natural sciences, environmental education, agriculture, or related area
- A highly dependable understanding of the National Organic standards
- Proven excellent oral and written communication skills
- Previous experience in a non-profit setting
- Previous experience working with farmers

- The ability to work well with OEFFA personnel, members, and the public
- Flexibility and openness in dealing with changing events and priorities
- Organization, planning, and project management skills.

This is a part-time position (25 hours/week). Salary is \$15.00-16.00/hr (depending on qualifications), and benefits include health insurance, sick leave, and paid time off. The Organic Educator reports to the Education Program Director. The position is based in Columbus, Ohio, and may involve occasional travel.

How to Apply: Applications consist of cover letter, résumé, and names of three references (indicate relationship). Electronically submitted applications (preferred) should be addressed to Carol Goland, Executive Director, and submitted to cgoland@oeffa.org, or mail your application to Carol Goland, OEFFA, 41 Croswell, Columbus, OH 43214. For questions, contact Carol Goland at 614.421-2022. Review of applications will begin on Dec. 28, with interviews to be held early January. Candidates should be prepared to begin by February 10, 2011.

About OEFFA

The Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA) is a coalition of growers, gardeners, and conscientious eaters who see ecological farming as a profitable and common-sense approach to ensuring a sustainable, permanent, accountable and wholesome food system. OEFFA promotes food production practices that take advantage of natural processes, quality local food markets, and environmental health as the basis for healthy food and people. (For further information about the organization see www.oeffa.org.)