

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association is searching for a **Beginning Farmer Program Coordinator**. The successful applicant will join a dedicated team of experienced and passionate professionals who are committed to advancing organic and sustainable agriculture, family farmers, and rural communities. If you have significant hands-on experience in sustainable agriculture production, have been responsible for developing and implementing multiple educational programs, have a strong work ethic, and thrive in a collaborative environment, please consider applying to join our staff.

About OEFFA

The Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1979 by farmers, gardeners, and conscientious eaters who committed to work together to create and promote a sustainable and healthful food and farming system. For more information, go to www.oeffa.org.

Job Summary

OEFFA's Beginning Farmer Program Coordinator will be tasked with providing technical support, as well as developing and implementing an ambitious series of educational programming for Ohio's beginning farmers, including workshops, courses, on-farm apprenticeships, farm tours, and field days. Topics span the spectrum of organic and sustainable production practices as well as financial and business planning and management. The Program Coordinator will be part of OEFFA's education team, collaborating closely with other staff on communication, event logistics, and direct educational and information services to farmers.

To be successful in this position, you must be able to demonstrate: a high degree of knowledge about organic and sustainable farming; a minimum of three years' professional experience with successively increasing responsibility; experience in organizing multi-session and/or multi-presenter educational events; an understanding of the financial and management challenges faced by small-scale farmers; and, a very successful track record of collaboration with colleagues. Prior experience in developing project proposals in the nonprofit sector would be a plus, as would a background in agricultural or adult education.

This is a wonderful opportunity to put your energies into a cause-based job that has the potential to positively impact the next generation of sustainable and organic family farmers.

Job Responsibilities

- Work, with minimal supervision, to develop and implement educational programming for beginning farmers, including on-farm apprenticeships, periodic workshops, farm tours and field days, mentorships, and business skills capacity building.
- Develop appropriate curricula for educating beginning farmers in agro-ecology.

- Provide direct technical support to beginning farmers who have production and marketing questions.
- Produce materials for promoting educational opportunities.
- Represent OEFFA with our partners and at various events in the farming community and beyond.

Qualifications

We invite applications from those who match the profile of the ideal OEFFA employee:

Experienced: can demonstrate a successful history of developing and implementing high quality and deeply impactful educational events and materials for farmers

Passionate: for sustainable and organic agriculture, family farms, and rural places

Knowledgeable: about organic and sustainable farming and family farm business and financial management

Leads: has the capacity to plan and manage projects and people

Self-directed: takes the initiative to get work done; is able to be self-sufficient in a small staff environment

Manages workflow: uses outstanding organizational skills to multi-task and organize multiple events on a timeline; is relentlessly attentive to detail

Good thinker: possesses strong analytical and critical thinking skills

Strong communications: consistently exhibits precision, clarity, and flair in oral and written communication

Collaborative: works effectively with others to reach common goals and objectives

Builds relationships: by establishing and cultivating strong connections with co-workers, members, and external stakeholders

Prioritizes: is able to set and meet goals, prioritize, plan, manage and complete work on deadline

Holds high standards: as shown by a commitment to performing work with a high degree of accountability and consistent excellence

Educated: as demonstrated by a bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant field

Compensation for this full-time position is commensurate with experience and includes health insurance, paid time off, holidays, and sick leave. The position is based in Columbus, Ohio. Telecommuting is not an option.

Deadline for Applications: Review of applications begins on June 15, 2016. Interested candidates are advised to apply by this date to receive full consideration, although the position will stay open until filled. (If this posting is removed from the OEFFA website, we are no longer accepting applications.)

Your application should be addressed to Renee Hunt, Program Director, and consists of three items: a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references (indicate relationship to you). In your cover letter please address how your experience and background

meet the requirements of the position and include salary history and expectations. Please combine these as a single PDF file and submit via email to jobs@oeffa.org. Electronic submissions only; incomplete applications will not be considered.