



VOLUNTEER POSITION SUMMARY OXON COVE PARK & OXON HILL FARM



TITLE: Demonstration Garden Volunteer

SUMMARY: Aid in planting and maintaining the demonstration garden near the chicken coop.

REQUIRED TASKS:

- Working outdoors
- Getting dirty in the soil: tilling, planting, weeding, and harvesting
- Mixing and applying compost
- Informally answering visitor questions about the garden and what we are growing

DESIRED SKILLS:

- Basic knowledge of gardening
- Experience using garden tools
- Positive attitude, eagerness to put in hard work to achieve a common goal

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Primarily outdoors, but not during inclement weather or extreme heat or cold. Work will include stooping, bending, lifting, and other physical activities common with gardening.

SCHEDULE/TIME COMMITMENT: 2-8 hours per week, likely one afternoon Wednesday through Saturday. More work in spring and fall, but needed through the summer as well. Very little work in winter.

BENEFIT: By volunteering in our demonstration garden, you will be helping provide a teaching aid so that we can better communicate our message about sustainable agriculture and the importance of growing and eating healthy food. We will teach each other more about gardening practices and get good working experience. Working outside is also great exercise and studies have found working in soil can improve your mood and your immune system.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Volunteer involvement in the gardens at Oxon Hill Farm will be expanding significantly. We are currently interested in finding at least 4 demonstration garden volunteers, and there may be opportunities for similar work in other parts of the park and the need for additional volunteers as plans develop. Volunteer t-shirt and hat provided.

HOW TO APPLY: To become a volunteer at OXHI, complete the Volunteer Application form at <http://www.nps.gov/oxhi/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm> or contact Jamie Euken, the OXHI Volunteer Coordinator at 301-839-1176 or jamie_euken@nps.gov.