



Apply online at [www.growing-gardens.org/mentor](http://www.growing-gardens.org/mentor)  
Deadline to apply: March 1, 2020

*\*A limited number of stipend positions are available to graduates of the Home Gardens program*

## **Volunteer Position: Garden Advisor**

### **Summary of position:**

Garden Mentors work one-on-one with beginning gardeners enrolled in the Home Gardens program, offering knowledge and support to foster the development of vegetable gardening skills and confidence. Garden Mentors support one or more mentees throughout the growing season through garden site visits, by telephone, at workshops or in other ways possible and practical to both parties. Both English and Spanish-speaking positions are available. *\*Approved for Master Gardener Volunteer Credit Hours\**

**Time Commitment:** Flexible schedule, 1-5 hours per month, March through October

**Compensation:** We have a limited number of stipend positions that are available to graduates or current participants of the Home Gardens program. If selected, you will receive a \$50 stipend for completing the Garden Mentor training and at least 2 site visits (45-60 min) with your mentee(s).

### **Responsibilities:**

- Attend Mentor Training and Orientation: Saturday March 28, 9am-1pm – Growing Gardens office
- Provide ongoing support and assistance to one or more garden mentees in the following ways:
  - Maintain monthly phone contact with gardeners
  - Complete 2 or more hands-on, garden site visits at each gardener's home
  - Answer questions and help with trouble-shooting via phone, email, or in person
  - Help foster basic gardening skills. (e.g.: weeding, watering, planting)
  - Connect gardeners to other community resources
  - Maintain progress notes for all site visits and phone contact
  - Practice self-direction, patience and flexibility
- Communicate with Growing Gardens about gardener support, successes, problems, etc.

### **Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated success in sustainable vegetable gardening
- Experience and knowledge in: planting/spacing techniques, watering, weeding, harvesting, and pest management
- Confidence and willingness to find out answers to mentee's questions if you do not already know the answers
- Ability to independently follow through with duties and to check-in with Growing Gardens staff if problems arise
- Commitment to inclusivity and sensitivity towards diverse backgrounds

### **What you can gain from the experience:**

- Connect with other gardeners in your community
- Strengthen your own gardening skills
- Mentors will receive one copy of Growing Gardens' Mentor Training Binder, filled with gardening resources and information
- **The joy of helping someone in your community to grow their own food!**

## **Volunteer Garden Mentor 2020 Calendar:**

<b>March</b>	<b>Garden Mentor Training and Orientation:</b> Saturday March 28th 9am-1pm Growing Gardens Office 3114 SE 50 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland OR 97206
<b>April</b>	<b>Garden Mentee/Mentor Match-ups</b> Meet your gardener!  *Recommended topics: getting to know each other! Family/gardening history, personal goals for the seasons, best methods of contacting, expectations, etc*
<b>April</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener (in person highly recommended)  *Recommended topics: planning, planting by seed, spacing, timing*
<b>May</b>	<b>Plant Distribution Day:</b> Saturday, May 16th 12pm to 2pm Trinity Lutheran School 5520 NE Killingsworth St.  <b>Check-In</b> with your Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: planting starts, spacing, timing, thinning*
<b>June</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: watering, trellising, pruning*
<b>July</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: water conservation, pest and diseases, hot weather planting for a fall/winter harvest*
<b>August</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: harvesting, recipes, pickling, last chance to plant for fall/winter harvest*
<b>September</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: harvesting, preserving, cooking*
<b>October</b>	<b>Check-In</b> with Home Gardener, via phone or in person  *Recommended topics: winter garden prep, soil health, cover cropping, home composting*

Thank you for your interest in the Garden Advisor Position!  
If you have any questions, please contact Home Gardens Director

**Emily Keeler (503)284-8420 x101**  
**[emily@growing-gardens.org](mailto:emily@growing-gardens.org)**