



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

P.O. Box 255, Worcester, MA 01613

Job Title: Farmers Market Assistant

Compensation: \$ 15.50-16.50/ hour, 20-30 hours per week

Start Date: ASAP

End Date: December 15th 2022

Supervision: Position reports to the Farmers Market Manager and Farmers Market Coordinator

DESCRIPTION

The Regional Environmental Council (REC) is a grassroots, nonprofit, food justice organization with a 50 year history of working for environmental sustainability and social justice in Worcester through a range of programs that currently include community and school gardens, farmers markets, youth and development and employment, and urban agriculture initiatives. The Community Farmers Market Program's primary goal is to provide access to fresh, local, and affordable produce to Worcester's underserved neighborhoods. By placing our Mobile Farmers Market stops in the most food-insecure neighborhoods we commit to improving food access to the families and individuals who need it most.

The REC Community Farmers Markets includes a Mobile Farmers Market that operates Tuesday through Thursday, and serves communities throughout the city of Worcester. We also operate three standing farmers markets on Monday, Friday and Saturday. Our markets offer fresh and local produce available for purchase with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, Senior and WIC coupons, and other incentive programs such as the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP).

We are seeking a motivated individual from the community to temporarily join our team to support our Farmers Market activities. Candidates must be able to operate a motor vehicle and possess a valid driver's license. Shifts available Monday through Saturday. Candidates must be passionate about this project, be excellent communicators, and detail oriented. This is a seasonal position.

RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

- Provide support to our Farmers Market including but not limited to packing and distributing pre-ordered produce packages
- Be able to represent the REC and all its programs with knowledge and enthusiasm
- Provide quality customer service while adhering to the REC customer service policy including: customer line management, answering customer questions as it relates to market products, using SNAP/HIP benefits at market, market availability and scheduling, assisting customers with handling of produce, and maintaining the market site accessible to customers with varying levels of mobility
- Drive the organizational large mobile van to transport products and supplies throughout the city
- Load produce into mobile van, and maintain cleanliness in order to comply with food safety regulations
- Set-up market display, stock produce, put our market price signs and other signage, breakdown set-up, and clean market site
- Complete customer transactions using our electronic POS systems/device



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- Maintain communication between REC mobile market and site coordinator and volunteers at each market site
- Organize produce storage at our walk-in cooler
- Assist in cleaning and maintaining a safe storage space
- Assist in produce deliveries to storage space and inform produce ordering, update inventory systems using our online database
- Additional duties assigned as necessary

JOB SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS

- Past experience in farming and/or farmers markets is a plus
- Self-motivated, detail oriented, highly organized and reliable
- Excellent people and communication skills
- Easily contactable – has a cell phone and can be easily contacted by Farmers Market Manager and Coordinator when applicable
- Must be passionate about food justice
- Enthusiasm for working directly in the communities
- Being comfortable with and respectful of diversity
- Reliable transportation required
- Must hold a valid driver's license to operate a company-owned large cargo vehicle and pass an RMV driver's record check
- Ability to lift 50 pounds and work in adverse weather
- Spanish, Vietnamese, Albanian, Nepali, and other non-English languages preferred

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a **detailed cover letter and resume** to: Erika Akerson– Lead Farmers Market Manager, at the following email address: ekerson@recworcester.org. Include subject line: "Farmers Market Staff". **Please fully address your availability during the proposed schedule (see Shift Availability above) in your email.**

Hiring will be done on a rolling basis.

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.