



The Esplanade Association (EA) is a 100% privately-funded nonprofit organization that works to revitalize and enhance the Charles River Esplanade Park, preserve natural green space, and build community by providing educational, cultural and recreational programs for everyone. Esplanade Association, works in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to enhance the experience of the millions of visitors who enjoy Boston’s iconic riverside greenspace, a 62 acre urban park. More information on the organization can be found on our website at www.esplanadeassociation.org.

JOB TITLE: Seasonal Horticulturist

DEPT/PROGRAM: Horticulture

REPORTS TO: Horticulture Manager

POSITION OVERVIEW: The Seasonal Horticulturist will assist and support all aspects of Horticultural operations and maintenance of the Park, in alignment with organizational and departmental planning and goals. S/he will gain experience in ‘best’ Horticultural practices and organic land care as applied to an urban park setting. This is a hands-on position, and employees are part of a team that maintains the beauty and functionality of the Park. This position reports to the Horticulture Manager.

POSITION STATUS: This is a seasonal, exempt position, from 22.5 to 37.5 hours a week, approximately April through November. The work schedule is typically 7:00am – 3:00pm, but may include weekend, evening and holiday work as deemed necessary. This position requires lifting, transporting equipment to, from and within the Park, and working outdoors. Must be able to drive a park vehicle and be at least 18 years of age. **For candidates that are looking for full-time work, we encourage you to apply. We will consider extending the number of hours per week for the right candidate.**

Responsibilities and Duties:

Working with the existing staff, seasonal employees will:

- Perform daily park maintenance needs; watering, weeding, mulching, mowing, planting, pruning, scouting and monitoring plant pests and diseases;

- Work closely with supervisor to carry out prioritized park landscaping, maintenance and improvement projects and needs, including:
 - Monitoring, maintaining, and caring for the installation, care and/or replacement of the park's tree, shrub, and herbaceous collections;
 - Irrigating plantings as needed, and maintaining irrigation systems at selected sites;
 - Carrying out soil testing and monitoring compaction;
 - Implementing the compost program, including compost tea brewing and applications; and
- Communicate as appropriate with DCR staff on both on-going issues (events, maintenance, safety, etc.) and ad hoc issues (fallen tree limbs, graffiti, animals, repairs, etc.).
- Operate and maintain a range of equipment and tools in a safe and professional manner.
- Work with the Stewardship Manager and Horticulture staff on diverse volunteer group projects, and provide volunteers with instruction and oversight on planting, invasive species, maintenance practices and safety issues.
- Adhere to protocols established by EA and DCR.
- Complete field reports in a timely manner.
- Represent the Esplanade Association's interests to the public, etc. in a professional manner;
- Participant in weekly staff meetings to discuss goals, priorities and feedback.
- Perform other assigned duties as they relate to the operations and care of the Park.

Qualifications and Skills:

Work Experience:

- Two years of Horticulture field experience required, including but not limited to, gardening and/or landscaping experience, compost tea brewing and application, pruning, working with irrigation systems, and knowledge of soil science.
- Volunteer management or team leadership a plus

Skills:

- Strong plant identification, composting, and tree maintenance skills required.
- Background in organic land care procedures.
- Must be able safely operate diverse tools, including chainsaw, pole saw, string trimmer, basic lawnmower, chipper/shredder, and various hand tools.
- Basic equipment maintenance skills necessary.
- Computer proficiency – Microsoft Excel, Word and Outlook.
- Ability to work effectively and professionally with DCR personnel, contractors/vendors, board members, donors, and park patrons.
- Ability to work well under pressure and with rapidly changing priorities.

Education/Training/Certification:

- Associate's or Bachelor's degree required, preferably in relevant field.
- Horticulturalist-related safety training (use of chainsaws, pesticides, etc.) preferred.
- MCH, AOLCP, or UMASS Green School preferred.

Other:

- Must be able to work some evening, holidays and weekend events.
- Must possess a valid Massachusetts driver's license at time of appointment and for duration of employment.
- Must be able to bend, stoop, reach, carry up to 50 lbs., crawl, climb, and lift as necessary to carry out duties.

How to apply: Please send your resume and a cover letter of your personal interest in the field of horticulture to, Renee Portanova, rportanova@esplanadeassociation.org. Please use "Seasonal Horticulturist" as you subject line.