



Trainee Role Description Infrastructure - 1 post

We grow organic produce at Hawkwood, our 12 acre community market garden and plant nursery, and distribute it to our own market stalls, box scheme and local restaurants. This role will be focused on the site management aspects required to maintain and develop Hawkwood plant nursery and will also play a supporting role in the harvesting and growing of vegetables and plants.

This traineeship will suit someone wanting to learn a broad range of practical skills which are needed in site development and large scale garden management at community sites. You should be happy working independently, with the Organiclea Infrastructure Worker, and with volunteers. The trainee will be able to focus in on the aspects of the work which appeal most to him/her/them.

Details of the role

- Unpaid voluntary role
- Time commitment: 1 day/week for 9 months
- Dates: Friday 8 April - Friday 16 December 2022; shorter placements considered
- Hours: Fridays from 9.00am –5.00pm
- Based at: Hawkwood Community Plant Nursery
- Occasional weekend commitments: Up to 4 days over the traineeship to support weekend outreach events, open days and plant and produce stalls

Supported by:

- monthly check-ins with an Organiclea mentor
- monthly discussion and learning workshop
- travel expenses, within London, if needed
- bicycle repairs and servicing whilst-you-work for cyclists
- a seasonal, vegan, organic lunch will be provided on Fridays

To apply please:

1. Indicate clearly which role(s) you are interested in. If you would like to apply for more than one role please list your preferred 3 in order.
2. Complete and return the Organiclea application form and monitoring form, available on our website.
3. Send to: debbie@organiclea.org.uk or post to the Hawkwood Address for the attention of Debbie Ladds, Organiclea, 115 Hawkwood Crescent, Chingford, E4 7UH.

Deadline for applications: 9pm on Friday 18 February 2022

Interview date: Friday 11 March 2022

For more information about the role, start by contacting Debbie at: debbie@organiclea.org.uk (Tuesdays and Fridays are good contact days).

Main objectives

- To learn about and assist with aspects of site maintenance and development at Hawkwood
- To learn about and assist with propagation in the glasshouses
- To learn about and assist with maintaining the productive areas of the Hawkwood site
- To learn about and support harvesting
- To provide support for the volunteer programme

Main Activities

Infrastructure

- Take on specific tasks related to the sites infrastructure needs, both inside the building and on the hard standing. (e.g., renovation of the building, furniture building, and design work).
- Safely use site machinery, needed for soft landscaping, including, strimmer, mower, two wheeled tractor, and farm tractor.
- Safely use the workshop tools unassisted, and assist with building projects that requires their use. This will included most basic carpentry tools as well as some metal working equipment.
- Help and understand the specifics of glass house maintenance, including cleaning, safe working at height, and replacement of broken glass panes.

Growing

- Maintain irrigation systems
- Fabricate and erect crop protection
- Undertake other activities in support of growing crops, as appropriate

Harvesting

- Cut/pick produce to the agreed methods, ensuring quality control
- Prepare produce according to 'product descriptions'
- Weigh, pack, seal, label and organise dispatch

Working with volunteers

- Work to ensure all volunteers on site are safe, welcomed, valued and supported
- Lead tasks with volunteers

Person Specification

Essential

- Readiness to engage with physical tasks
- Willingness and ability to work on one's own
- Some experience of construction or DIY work
- Interest in sustainable food production and the desire to put that interest into practice
- Some experience of growing/gardening
- Commitment to getting a job done
- Ability to supervise and explain tasks to volunteers
- Happy to work mainly outdoors throughout the year
- Ability to carry out shared tasks and work within a team
- Ability to work on own initiative, prioritise tasks and work to deadlines
- Commitment to and understanding of the aims of OrganicLea

OrganicLea is a registered company limited by guarantee no. 5135926
Growing site: Hawkwood Plant Nursery, 115 Hawkwood Crescent, Chingford E4 7UH
Distribution hub/Registered office: Hornbeam Centre, 458 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, London E17 9AH
Web: www.organiclea.org.uk Email: info@organiclea.org.uk
Telephone: 020 8524 4994 (Hawkwood)