



Part-Time Countryside Cheese & Farmers' Market Assistant

About Countryside

Our mission is to connect people, food and land by promoting a resilient, sustainable food culture through programs, advocacy and education. We are a leading expert and innovator in conservation farming and community-based food programs, working in partnership with Cuyahoga Valley National Park, its farms, community stakeholders and food entrepreneurs.

About Countryside Farmers' Markets

As an outgrowth of the Countryside Initiative farm program, we began managing farmers' markets in 2004 and now operate 3 markets. 2018 is our fifteenth season in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and our fourteenth season in Akron. The markets collectively generate over \$1M in annual sales and serve over 50,000 customers each year. Our markets are **producer-only**; vendors are required to be growing, producing or making the products offered at the markets.

The purposes of the Countryside Farmers' Markets are three-fold:

- Provide a venue where local farmers, producers, artisans, and artists can sell their high-quality products directly to the consumer.
- Connect consumers with a wide array of locally grown and produced foods and goods in a setting that allows them to interact directly with the grower or producer, thereby re-connecting them directly to the source of their food.
- Create a space that allows for community interaction and enjoyment, informal public education and civic engagement.

About Countryside Cheese

Countryside Cheese is a new Countryside Farmers' Market project in 2018; the project aims to connect Ohio artisan cheese producers with Countryside Farmers' Market cheese lovers.

About the Position

The Countryside Cheese & Farmers' Market Assistant's primary function is to provide logistical support for the Countryside Cheese project, and sell cheese during markets. The secondary function is to assist the Farmers' Market Manager with the set-up and tear-down of markets.

Schedule Requirements

- Thursdays, 1pm – 9pm, May through September
- Saturdays, 5:30am – 1:30pm, mid-April through December, and select Saturdays, January through mid-April
- Additional hours on an as-needed basis

Essential Duties

- Pack cheese coolers for transport to market
- Set-up Countryside Cheese booth – layout and prepare samples
- Assist Farmers' Market Manager with additional market set-up duties
- Sell cheese!
- Reconcile cheese sales at end of market; re-set cash box and prepare cheese deposit
- Tear down Countryside Cheese booth
- Assist Farmers' Market Manager with additional market tear-down duties



- Unpack cheese coolers, complete inventory, do cheese dishes
- Other duties, as assigned

Key Skills

- Outgoing personality, with excellent customer service skills
- Precise cash handling
- Passion for/curiosity about cheese
- Willing to develop a depth of knowledge about producers and product
 - Articulate communication skills to share knowledge with customers

Additional Qualifications

- Must be capable of lifting objects ~50 lbs.
- Trained in food safety, or willing to be trained.

Compensation

\$10.10/hour.

To Apply

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until position is filled; immediate start date preferred. Send a one-page cover letter, one-page resume and two professional references to Erin Molnar, Director of Local Food Programs, at emolnar@cvcountyside.org.