



Massachusetts Horticultural Society

The Gardens at Elm Bank · 900 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482 · 617-933-4900 · www.MassHort.org

Garden Education Instructor

Background:

Massachusetts Horticultural Society is dedicated to encouraging the science and practice of horticulture and to developing the public's enjoyment, appreciation, and understanding of plants and the environment. The Gardens at Elm Bank, a 36-acre public garden located within the historic Elm Bank Reservation (182 acres) in Wellesley/Dover, MA, is a venue for teaching the public about plant biology, horticulture, and the natural world. All staff are ambassadors for Massachusetts Horticultural Society and readily interact with visitors, members, donors, trustees, volunteers, and the public.

Summary:

The Garden Education Instructor will develop and teach a variety of mission-related programs for families and garden visitors of all ages, as well as for off-site school and community groups. The Garden Education Instructor should be outgoing and comfortable teaching large groups of children. She/he/they will also need to be organized and able to work independently.

Responsibilities:

- Learn and implement hands-on lessons focused on plants, garden ecology, botany, and gardening, as well as develop and teach new lessons based on audience needs and interests.
- Develop, book, and present Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Plantmobile programs to school groups, both in the garden and off-site in schools and other settings.
- Lead and deliver family activities during garden hours and special events.
- Promote Massachusetts Horticultural Society's mission and educational offerings at community events.
- Create content for social media platforms and website.
- Work with and support volunteers who are assisting with programs.
- Assist with the development of garden interpretation and activities.
- Lead tours for garden visitors.

Skills and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree or higher in education, museum studies, botany, horticulture or related field.
- Three to five years of related experience in the fields of horticulture/botany, biology, gardening, environmental education, natural science, or a similar subject.
- Professional experience teaching in a public/private school or educational nonprofit.

- Ability to build rapport quickly with visitors and present content in a manner that is relevant, engaging, and compelling.
- Experience developing, implementing, and evaluating educational programs.
- Successful experience working with a variety of audiences.
- Flexible, willing to adapt to change, and interested in helping envision a change.
- Strong time management, record keeping, public speaking, and writing skills.
- Excellent customer service and interpersonal skills.

In addition, the position requires:

- A state criminal background check and valid driver's license.
- Ability to stand, and walk for up to 8 hours/day. Must be comfortable working actively outdoors for the majority of the day in all weather conditions.
- Must be able to lift 50 pounds.
- A flexible schedule and the ability to work regular weekends and evenings, as needed.

Reports To:

Director of Educational Outreach.

Work Schedule:

A part-time, year-round, hourly position that is non-exempt from overtime. The standard work schedule for this position is 24 hours per week; hours may increase seasonally (April through June). Occasional evening and weekend work required.

To Apply:

Send cover letter and resume to search@leadertransitions.com