

# GIDEON'S GARDEN

## Summer Internship Opportunity Gideon's Garden



Gideon's Garden is looking for a team of enthusiastic interns to help during the 2020 summer growing season!

### What Is Gideon's Garden?

Gideon's Garden is a youth-operated farm in Great Barrington, MA. We grow over 40 different kinds of fruits and vegetables, and we give all our produce away to food pantries in the Southern Berkshires. We care for a flock of chickens, and we also maintain a butterfly house that is open to the public.

### What is the internship about?

This internship is both work experience and an educational program designed for learning and personal growth. Each work day will involve a variety of activities, including a morning lesson on agriculture-related topics, work hours in the garden, and team building activities and reflection time in the afternoon.

During the work hours, interns will:

- participate in all aspects of farming, including planting seeds, harvesting, washing and packing produce, watering, weeding, and lawn maintenance
- feed, handle, and care for the chickens
- collect data on the harvests and the health of the plants
- care for butterflies and maintain the butterfly house

During the educational hours, interns will:

- start the day with a centering meditation to create focus and well-being
- learn about topics like pollination, compost, plant physiology, and weather
- share progress reports on assigned plants that will be tracked in teams over the course of the summer
- participate in daily debriefing, sharing highs, lows, and affirmations of one another
- reflect on personal growth throughout summer as garden tasks relate to life themes



**By the end of the internship, students will have gained:**

- new skills and work experience that can be useful for future jobs
- new and lasting friendships
- a greater feeling of confidence in one's own abilities
- a sense of having contributed to the community through service
- greater knowledge about nature, plants, and the process of growing food

***About The Basics:***

**Who:** We are looking for a team of 6-8 interns who are between the ages of 14 and 16 years old.

**Where:** All the program's activities will be held at Gideon's Garden, 26 Division St. Great Barrington, MA 01230, across the street from Taft Farms

**When:** Tuesdays, from 8:00am-3:15pm, starting June 16<sup>th</sup> and ending August 18<sup>th</sup>

**Payment:** This is a paid internship. Details of payment will be discussed upon an interview.



**Application Process:** Fill out and return the application form via email to Gideon's Garden Program Director, Jen Bloesch at [jbloesch@graceberkshires.org](mailto:jbloesch@graceberkshires.org). One reference letter from a teacher, employer, volunteer supervisor, or coach is also required and can be emailed directly to Jen. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Applicants will be considered in the order in which they applied.

For more information about Gideon's Garden, its collaborative partners, and its history, please see our website at <https://graceberkshires.org/gideons-garden/>

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**Note:** Gideon's Garden is a program of Taft Farms and Grace Church, an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires. While interns will be offered payment through the church, the internship is not a religious program, and students are not required to be affiliated with the church, participate in church activities, or profess a particular faith. Any questions can be sent to Jen Bloesch at [jbloesch@graceberkshires.org](mailto:jbloesch@graceberkshires.org).

For more information:  
GRACE CHURCH  
an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires  
PO Box 114  
Great Barrington, MA  
413-644-6572  
<http://graceberkshires.org/>

**Note:** Due to the recent concerns regarding COVID-19, during this internship we will be practicing social distancing per the governmental recommendations at the time. Practices may change over the course of the summer as recommendations change, and we withhold the right to cancel the internship if it becomes necessary due to safety issues.