



### **Mission Statement**

To develop a healthier, more equitable and participatory food system through garden education, composting, leadership development, food preservation and neighborhood food guilds.

### **I. POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

#### **Compost Specialist Interns:**

The internship program provides students with practical experiences in working with a non-profit related to land stewardship and food sovereignty.

Successful *Compost Specialist* applicants have some experience and/or education in any of the following areas: soil science and soil properties, basic knowledge of compost qualities, and a desire to gain hands-on experience in compost maintenance. *Compost Specialist* interns will assist in the following ways:

#### **Administrative:**

- Logging compost measurements and temperatures
- Tracking data and updating relevant spreadsheets
- Assisting in educational workshops and outreach
- Assisting in supply/material pick-ups and drop offs

#### **Garden:**

- Safe operation of tractor and other gardening supplies
- Ensure garden tools are cleaned and stored properly
- Ensure outside work stations are maintained and cleared at end of day
- Actively assess and maintain compost needs each week
- Assist in maintaining garden beds
- Assist the DEEP Roots team in tasks as necessary

Strong written and oral communications skills, organized, detail-oriented, capable of working independently, and knowledge of Google Drive is needed for this internship.

The DEEP Roots and Compost Specialist program provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop leadership skills and explore interests in environmental and food justice, land stewardship, program implementation, and evaluation while under the supervision of a FoodLink Staff member. The DEEP Roots supervisor will conduct regular meetings in which Interns can share their experiences, to assure that the intern is participating in a meaningful work experience. This internship is un-paid, there may be incentives available. This program will run June 24<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup> with the expectation of 10 hours per week.

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Apply academic knowledge in a professional setting
  - a. *The primary goal of an internship is to provide the student with the opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom to solve practical real-world problems in a professional setting.*
2. Develop professionally relevant competencies and relationships in a professional setting
  - a. *The student works together with the site supervisor to develop a learning agreement. The learning agreement specifies how the student plans to sharpen and develop new knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to serve effectively in a professional setting. Relationships with the site supervisor and other professionals add to the student's professional network.*
3. Gain exposure to a professional field and an understanding of professional etiquette
  - a. *The student is able to learn from observing the professional behavior of the site supervisor and other employees at the site, as well as through interaction with student consumers. The student also practices proper business etiquette while fulfilling his or her internship responsibilities.*
4. Observe and begin to understand a professional organizational culture
  - a. *The student understands the dynamics of an organization's culture through observing and reflecting on how decisions are made, how work is structured, how power is shared, how colleagues interact, how an organization's mission/vision are implemented, and to what degree accountability and feedback are present in the organization.*
5. Evaluate one's own performance in light of one's expressed goals and learning outcomes
  - a. *Self-directed learning is one component of the learning agreement each student completes at the beginning of the semester. The student sets goals for what they would like to learn, and will measure progress against those goals. The intern should be able to assess to what degree they were able to meet the expressed goals and learning outcomes, and identify new areas for growth.*
6. Clarify one's calling through reflection on the internship experience
  - a. *The internship experience allows the student to put his or her gifts to practical use in preparation for a life of leadership and service in a global society. The student is able to reflect on the internship experience and make connections between what the student understands about his or her giftedness, and the needs of the profession the student is exploring through the internship experience.*
7. Critically evaluate the internship experience as an exemplar for the field
  - a. *The student is able to evaluate critically to what extent the internship experience reflects the broad range of experiences available in the professional field(s) most relevant to the internship (skills/knowledge required to perform assigned tasks, customer base, work place culture, size of the organization, scope of services/product offerings, etc.). The student is able to differentiate one's skills, personality and gifts in relation to the expectations and demands of the internship role and environment.*