



Farmory Aquaponics AmeriCorps VISTA

Looking to get involved in aquaponics and gain real system design skills right in your community? The Farmory is a fish hatchery and aquaponics education farm dedicated to serving the people of Wisconsin. We provide sustainable agriculture learning opportunities that build economic self-sufficiency and improve health, well-being, and the environment.

Aquaculture is one of the fastest growing segments of agriculture. Through our FarmoryWorks Aquaculture Technician and Entrepreneurship Programs people can come learn how to produce food for fun and profit. The Farmory is a hub of activity for the Navarino neighborhood, and we are working to seed the next generation of aquaculture and aquaponic farms in Wisconsin and beyond.

We are looking for an individual to join our team as the Aquaponics Summer VISTA member. We are a fun and hardworking crew that is committed to building both a strong and equitable local food system. The Aquaponics VISTA will help staff build and implement a new demonstration aquaponic system inside The Farmory building. This individual will be responsible for planning the process, assessing equipment needs, recruiting volunteer and in-kind donations and implementing both the deconstruction of our proof of concept system and building our new de-coupled aquaponics prototype system, as well as maintaining the system once it is built. The VISTA will also develop standard operating procedures for maintaining the new de-coupled system, as there will be some significant changes in equipment and processes from the proof-of-concept system. This individual will also train volunteers and staff in system set up and maintenance. Additional responsibilities may be added as experience and capacity increases.

This is a 10-week position starting June 7th, 2021 and ending on August 15th, 2021 with a minimum of 35 hours of service commitment per week. A stipend is paid directly to VISTA Summer Associates in the form of a modest bi-weekly living allowance from AmeriCorps VISTA. In addition, at the end of the term of service, an education award or cash stipend may be provided. For more information about AmeriCorps VISTA and compensation, see <http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/amicorps/amicorps-vista> .

This position will be supervised by our Executive Director and will be working alongside other VISTA members, volunteers, and Farmory staff.

Key Responsibilities:

- Contribute time to fulfill organization requirements even on weekends
- Source materials for new system that aligns with budget requirements
- Learn and implement design into new space
- Problem solve though design challenges when building the system
- Monitor and record water quality during initial setup stages of system
- Document learning and create draft of new standard operating procedures
- Work with facilities foreman to construct/assemble system

- Maintain safety and adhere to all safety protocols will working on system
- Develop fish and plant addition timelines
- Teach staff and volunteers new standard operating procedures
- Maintain a proper clean and safe workspace for volunteers in new system space
- Develop new data tracking methods to keep system running at highest level
- Become knowledgeable and implement biosecurity practices

Minimum-Qualifications:

- Comfort working with plumbing pipes, pumps, lights and other aquaponics system parts
- Excellent attention to detail
- Ability to work independently or as a part of a team
- Ability to do basic math calculations and take physical measurements with accuracy
- Excellent organizational skills and effective in task and time management
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Comfort using hand and power tools, under the supervision of facilities foreman
- Ability to lift 40 pounds or more
- Ability to climb on an eight-foot ladder
- Ability to bend, stoop, kneel and reach
- A can-do, problem solving mindset
- A strong desire to learn about aquaculture/aquaponics systems and practices
- A willingness to work with hatchery staff on other facets of the hatchery facility
- A willingness to get your hands dirty and your feet wet

Well Qualified candidates will have:

- Experience with science data collection and management
- Experience with volunteers is a plus
- Experience in agricultural systems or college level coursework in biology or environmental sciences

Benefits of Interning at The Farmory:

- Bio-Security Training
- Systems design experience
- Hands-on experience in aquaponics system
- Non-profit work experience

For more information about The Farmory please go to our website www.farmory.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Farmory.

To apply, please send the following documents to Morgan Emmel morgan@nwgreenbay.org.

1. Cover letter stating why this position is a good fit for you
2. Resume
3. Three references

Review of well-qualified applicants will start in March. Application deadline is May 5th. The position will commence on June 7th, 2021.