



Goat Dairy Internship 2023 March 1st - October 27th

Reports to: Goat Dairy Herd Manager

Job Status: Seasonal Intern, 20hrs/wk

Compensation: \$3,400 stipend and weekly produce as the season allows

Location: Boulder, CO

Check out our [Digital Internship Booklet!](#)

Growing Gardens' mission is to cultivate community through sustainable urban agriculture. Our programs empower people of all ages, income levels, and abilities by connecting them with their local food system, each other, and the environment.

Our organization values the diverse skills and individuals that come together to create a thriving community and workplace. We are committed to the work we do, and bring our best selves each day, but we don't take ourselves too seriously, have fun, and enjoy the process of doing good in our community. We take care of each other and put people at the center of everything we do.

Goat Dairy Interns **gain incredible hands-on experience working with our animals and land through a regenerative lens. We emphasize humane animal husbandry, raw milk production, rotational grazing, and community education.** Goat Dairy Interns improve their skills with farming through training, practice, reflection, and feedback. Goat Dairy Interns spend most of their time directly involved with our animals, volunteers, and program participants learning and teaching about the goats and their role within our organization.

Dairy Intern Role:

The Dairy Intern will support the daily functions of the Growing Gardens' Goat Dairy with an emphasis on animal husbandry, raw milk production, and rotational grazing. This internship is fast paced and requires hard work, focus, and care. The Dairy Intern will assist the herd manager with all aspects of dairy operations including but not limited to:

- Participate in all milking procedures and adhere to food safety protocols
- Participate in a combination of morning and evening farm chores. This will include, but is not limited to: setting up electric fencing, moving goat/ guard llama to and from different grazing locations on the property, ensuring all goats have adequate food and water, cleaning and preparation of barn/yard, restocking hay, trimming hooves
- Perform basic veterinary care including administration of vaccines and medicines
- Assist with prenatal care and kidding (Spring), and breeding (Fall)

- Bottle-feed goat kids
- Track daily herd health and rotational grazing
- Assist with various farm infrastructure projects
- Work closely with volunteers leading chore shifts
- Assist in various educational programs including bottle-feeding tours, field trips, workshops, on-site and off-site events

Knowledge and Skills the Intern Will Develop:

- Basic herd health management and tracking
- Safe and proper technique for hand-milking goats for our herdshare program
Regular milking for herdshare distribution is a requirement of this position
- Raw milk distribution using a herdshare program
- Food safety protocols and procedures pertaining to raw milk production
- Procedures and benefits of rotational grazing
- Conflict resolution, volunteer coordination, and communication skills
- The ability to work in a dynamic team environment with a passionate, committed team
- Hands-on experience making a positive impact in the lives of children, teens, and adults
- Networking and community connections within the burgeoning local food movement
- Development of marketable leadership and management skills

Structure of Internship:

- Internship duration is eight full months: March 1, 2023 – October 27th, 2023
- Intern works an average of 20hrs/wk, including regular weekend shifts. Note: hours may vary between weeks, depending on schedule of events, kidding timing, etc.
- Intern will attend the internship orientation meeting
- Each Intern is supported by a Mentor and a Supervisor
- Mentor oversees daily activities and supports each Intern's growth during weekly meetings throughout the duration of the contract
- Supervisor is available upon request for check-ins and meetings and provides general oversight of Growing Gardens' internship program
- This internship qualifies for credit at the university level

Benefits of Interning with Growing Gardens:

- 50% off all GG-grown organic produce at our weekly farmstand June-Oct
- 50% off all plant starts and seeds at our yearly plant sale
- Weekly organic veggie share June-Oct (valued at \$20-\$25/wk)
- Access to fresh raw goats milk/cheese as season/availability allows
- Complimentary classes, workshops, and local farm tours led by GG staff
- All Growing Gardens internships qualify for University credit if desired by the intern
- Property is centrally located and easily accessed via public transportation

Qualifications:

- Responsible, dedicated, and organized individual
- Able to work effectively, efficiently, and independently
- Strong work ethic and a passion for animals, farming, and developing community
- Must be comfortable working with large animals and be able to move the herd to and from grazing areas on a daily basis
- Ability to work early morning, evening, and weekend hours and under adverse weather conditions
- Physically capable of regular manual tasks, including lifting up to 50 pounds
- Some animal husbandry experience is desired, but it is not required for this position
- Applicants must be CPR and First Aid certified by March 2, 2023

A note about working here in the time of Covid-19:

Like everyone around the globe our operations have been challenged by this pandemic. Our work has had to shift at a moments' notice based on Public Health guidelines and changing priorities for the organization. We ask that interns are understanding of changing schedules and planned work as is necessary. In order to keep our small and mighty team healthy through the season we are requiring that everyone participating in our internship program be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. At this time, that means they will have received the primary vaccination and the bivalent booster containing Omicron. Further details on this can be found on the [CDC website](#). *If you need an exception to this requirement, please speak with the hiring manager.

Growing Gardens prohibits and will not tolerate discrimination or harassment and will take affirmative measures to ensure against them, especially if they are carried out on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, disability, status as a veteran or disabled veteran, neurodiversity, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family responsibilities, genetic information, matriculation or political affiliation. This policy applies to all employees or potential employees, volunteers, participants, members of the Growing Gardens Board of Directors, people who serve on Growing Gardens' committees, and anyone attending Growing Gardens' events. This policy extends to all aspects of employment at Growing Gardens, including hiring, transfer, promotion, training, working conditions, policies, compensation, evaluation, discipline and termination.

To apply:

Please send a cover letter and a copy of your resume to katelyn@growinggardens.org with your name and "2023 Goat Dairy Internship" in the subject line. In your cover letter, please share a bit about what interests you about the position and any relevant experience you have with livestock/animal care, farming, or sustainability.

Applications due by January 15th, 2023. Position will remain open until filled.

For any questions, contact Katelyn Toppel at katelyn@growinggardens.org