

Dynamic farm and forest business in Central Vermont seeking a Forest Crew Leader

Waits River Enterprises, LLC is a fast-growing, commercial farm business that leases forest sites throughout Vermont to cultivate woodland plants in established orchards. WRE, LLC is seeking a Forest Crew Leader for the 2016 season, from the end of June through the beginning of November, 2016. The Forest Crew Leader will lead and oversee seasonal agricultural workers to complete the tasks for each day: the Forest Crew Leader will pick up workers at their place of residence, transport them to orchard sites, and supervise / play a lead role in conducting all seasonal duties, including but not limited to site preparation (thinning saplings and brush); seed harvest and preparation; seed planting; and transplanting.

Transportation of workers to orchard sites will primarily involve driving to sites in Orange, Windsor, and Washington counties but could include driving to points as far away as locations in Lamoille County (1.5 – 2 hours of driving). The Forest Crew Leader should expect to work up to 70 hours a week during the season, Monday through Saturday. The Forest Crew Leader will coordinate directly with the farm business managers on strategies, methodology, and goals for the work to be performed at each orchard site. Training on best practices for daily tasks will be provided. Additional duties include:

- Picking up and dropping off seasonal workers at the airport
- Transporting seasonal workers to the grocery store once per week; to the state office in Montpelier to manage visa paperwork; and to the store to purchase gear (rain jackets, boots, etc.)
- Coordinating with the WRE, LLC office manager and lead farmer to ensure a port-a-potty is available for seasonal workers while work is being performed at each orchard site
- Keeping records and logging hours of seasonal workers
- Monitoring and managing morale and group dynamics among seasonal workers
- Ensuring cleanliness and good order of the house where seasonal workers are staying

Compensation

Because farm work (site preparation, seed harvest and preparation, and all planting work) performed at orchard sites by the Forest Crew Leader will overlap with the federal H-2A workers' contract, the compensation and other aspects of the Forest Crew Leader position will also be governed by that same contract (as required by state and federal regulations). Compensation will be \$15.00 / hr. Housing is available for those outside of commuting distance to the Randolph area.

Qualifications

Previous farm field work and management experience is preferred. Applicants should expect to work outside in the woods, often on steep hillsides, in all weather conditions including rain, snow and summer heat. Qualified applicants will be emotionally mature, have leadership experience, be team oriented, self-motivated, have a positive attitude, are organized, are able to work well with diverse groups of people, and are able to follow and give instructions.

Requirements

Reliable transportation and a valid driver's license is a must.

A willingness to obtain various licenses and permits as necessary to perform the required tasks. All associated fees will be paid for the Company.

A willingness to obtain and carry a signed medical form from a licensed doctor that permits the driving of migrant workers (as per the regulations pertaining to the federal H-2A program).

Contact

Please send inquires and resumes to: info@waitsriver.com

Andrew Stowe

Manager, Waits River Enterprises LLC