



The Land & Garden Preserve is a nonprofit organization located in Seal Harbor and Northeast Harbor, Maine. The mission of the Preserve is to share the beauty of historic lands and gardens on Mount Desert Island. The Preserve manages the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden, Asticou Azalea Garden, and Thuya Garden, as well as Little Long Pond and over 1,400 acres of natural lands.

Title: Assistant Grower – McAlpin Farm

Scope of Work: The Assistant Grower is primarily responsible for assisting in all aspects of growing at the McAlpin Farm propagation complex, a 3-acre plant production operation for the entire Land & Garden Preserve. In addition to being an active grower this position will manage all McAlpin Farm database records and inventory. This position reports directly to the McAlpin Farm & Abby Garden Manager. All tasks of the position are performed in alignment with the mission, vision, and core values of the Preserve. This is a non-exempt year-around 40-hour per week position with benefits that requires flexibility with scheduling.

Essential Job Functions:

- Propagate a diverse range of annual and perennial bedding plants, eastern US native plants, and important plants from the garden collections.
- Care and maintenance of the plant propagations and production facilities on a daily, weekly and seasonal basis. Ensure clean, safe, and secure work environments - adhere to OSHA standards.
- Scout for pests. Perform and keep records in accordance with the State of Maine of IPM pest control methods including the use of biopesticides and beneficial insects.
- Maintain detailed up to date propagation and production records using IrisBG and Microsoft Excel.
- Keep an up-to-date inventory of onsite plant material and maintain labels on in ground and containerized plants.
- Turn the annual requests for perennial plants from the garden designers into a Master Growlist each year.
- Participate in snow removal, minor repairs, special project work, weeding, mowing, and staking at the McAlpin Farm grounds.
- Participate in weekend and holiday watering rotations for McAlpin Farm.
- Assist with any future Preserve plant sale or on-site events. Provide an occasional program/presentation for Preserve members. Write Preserve newsletter/website/social media content.
- Assist the McAlpin Farm & Abby Garden Manager with informing the budget McAlpin Farm operations annually and processing invoices.
- Obtain and maintain a pesticide license. Comply with Master Pesticide Applicator's requirements and the State of Maine's recommendations regarding use of pesticides.
- Serve as an ambassador for the Preserve to visitors, volunteer committee members, members, Board directors and fellow staff. Practice and promote changes in operation to increase ecological sustainability in all tasks.

Qualifications:

- A bachelor's degree in Plant Science or equivalent education, with at least three years' experience working with plant propagation in production.
- Ability to prioritize work, proven written and verbal skills, dependability, excellent time-management skills, ability to work independently with minimal supervision, self-starting.
- Familiarity with Scientific names, Eastern US native plants and bedding annuals.
- Knowledge of sustainable and organic practices, plant physiology, soil nutrition, and IPM.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office 365 with a concentration on managing data through Excel. Ability to learn Iris-BG plant records system.
- Must obtain a pesticide license within first 8 months of employment. For the first three test attempts, the employer will pay the test costs and allow the employee to study for and take the test on work time. If the employee has not passed the exam after three attempts, further attempts will be at the employee's cost and on the employee's time.

- Ability to work a physically active eight-hour day in various conditions outside or in a glass greenhouse, ability to lift 50 pounds, perform detailed redundant tasks.
- Have a valid driver's license.