

Ecological Assistant – Tree Planting & Aftercare

1 Contract Position

Position Description

We are seeking a dedicated and motivated Ecological Assistant to provide critical staff support for our tree planting and aftercare initiatives. As an Ecological Assistant – Tree Planting & Aftercare, you will support the care, planting and growth of trees as well as assist with other ecological initiatives aimed at improving local ecosystems, combatting climate change, and enhancing biodiversity. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute your skills in ecological restoration and play a hands-on role in supporting local biodiversity through tree growing, planting and maintenance efforts, while working collaboratively with a diverse team of experts and volunteers.

Reports to: Planting Projects Coordinator

Key Accountabilities, Duties and Activities

	Expected % of time
Tree Planting, Growth Monitoring & Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in and oversee tree planting efforts, ensuring proper techniques and methods are used for successful tree growth • Monitor the health and progress of trees, ensuring they are properly cared for (watering, mulching, pruning, etc.) • Conduct site assessments to ensure suitable soil conditions and biodiversity for optimal tree growth • Assist in the collection and analysis of data related to soil health, tree growth, and environmental impact • Conduct regular field visits to monitor project progress and address any challenges • Maintain an accurate inventory of plants, supplies, and materials, ensuring adequate stock for planting needs 	30%
Aftercare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the health and progress of planted trees, ensuring they are properly cared for (watering, mulching, pruning, etc.) • Assist in the collection of data related to tree growth, survivability, and environmental impact • Conduct regular field visits to monitor project progress and address any challenges • Lead volunteers in the completion of aftercare projects • Support the creation of progress reports and environmental impact assessments • Manage and maintain field equipment and tools. • Support in the creation of progress reports and environmental impact assessments 	30%

Quality Control & Compliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all nursery operations follow industry standards and regulatory guidelines for plant care, safety, and environmental sustainability. • Implement and maintain quality control systems to ensure the production of healthy, high-quality trees. • Conduct regular inspections to ensure the nursery environment is free from hazards and complies with health and safety regulations. • Ensure that all nursery operations comply with health and safety standards, including proper handling of tools, chemicals, and equipment. • Maintain a safe working environment for all staff and visitors. • Monitor and assess the quality of planting and maintenance work. Address any issues related to plant health, planting techniques, or site conditions to ensure high standards of work. 	20%
Planting Project Event Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in the design, planning and implementation of ecological restoration projects, ensuring alignment with environmental goals and community needs • Collaborate with stakeholders, including local communities and environmental organizations • Assist with project documentation, including permits, land agreements, locates, and funding reports 	10%
Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with local communities to promote awareness of the benefits of tree growing & planting and encourage participation in growing & planting activities. • Support educational workshops, training sessions, and events to foster community involvement and environmental stewardship • Provide logistical support during project launches and events, planning and execution of plant sales or distribution for ecological restoration projects. 	10%

Qualifications

- **Education**
 - High school diploma or equivalent (required)
 - Coursework or experience in environmental science, forestry, ecology, conservation, or a related field (preferred)
- **Experience**
 - Prior experience in environmental restoration, gardening, landscaping, or working with plants/trees is a plus
 - Knowledge of tree species, growth habits, and best practices for planting and care is an advantage
- **Skills**
 - Basic knowledge of ecology principles and environmental stewardship
 - Ability to work outdoors in varying weather conditions
 - Comfortable working with tools and equipment used in tree planting and maintenance (i.e. brush saw, weedwhacker etc.)

- Strong attention to detail and ability to follow procedures and safety protocols
 - Experience creating maps and site plans using GIS software (preferred)
 - G class drivers' licence with ability to drive a truck and trailer is required – training is provided
- **Physical Requirements**
 - Ability to walk, bend, kneel, and stand for extended periods in outdoor settings
 - Ability to lift and carry heavy objects (up to 60lbs)
- **Personal Attributes**
 - Enthusiastic, reliable, and self-motivated
 - Team-oriented with strong oral and written communication skills
 - Passion for environmental conservation, tree growth, and the mission of ReForest London

Working Conditions

- This position involves working outdoors in various weather conditions.
- Physical labor, including standing for long periods of time, bending, lifting (up to 60lbs), digging, and planting, will be required.
- Frequent evening or weekend hours may be necessary depending on nursery operations, project timelines, or events.