EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Green Goods Buyer, North Chicago, IL (near Gurnee)

Chalet’s Material Handling Division serves our retail nursery and garden shop in Wilmette, IL, our landscape division in North Chicago, IL, and our 100-acre growing operation in Salem, WI. We have an opportunity for a Green Goods Buyer to join our team.

Responsibilities are to:

- Provide both internal and external customers with the highest quality plant material by incorporating customer feedback, market trends, and historic analysis.
- Develop the yearly plant purchasing plan for the upcoming season, make adjustments, and partner with Division Manager and Nursery Manager to establish pricing.
- Continually develop a network of potential vendors and suppliers. Maintain strong relationships and set expectations with current vendors and suppliers. Some over-night travel to growers is required.
- Source product to fulfill the yearly plan. Search for specialty or specimen product to fit unique applications. Source additional product to meet new needs of internal and external customers.
- Produce saleable inventory reports for landscape architects and retail nursery managers.
- Promote Chalet grown product to internal and external customers.

The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- Three to five years of experience as a green goods buyer or sales representative for a grower. It is critical that this experience has provided an in-depth understanding of the grower network and the retail industry.
- Strong horticulture knowledge gained from a degree in horticulture, industry certifications and/or hands-on experience.
- Confident and thorough communicator who knows how to utilize phone calls, emails, texts, and face-to-face meetings for the most productive, tactful, and diplomatic interactions.
- Be able to have a big picture focus, staying mindful of all the small details.
- Integrate analytics and metrics with industry trends and intuition when making plant purchasing decisions.
- A fast-on-your-feet problem solver.
- Understanding that a buyer serves many customers: retail department managers, landscape architects and management, in addition to the end customer.
- Demonstrated abilities using technology – inventory management systems, social media, Microsoft Office.

This is a full-time year-round salaried position. Due to the seasonal nature of our business, this position requires that you work 6 days a week for the 4 months of the high season. This will be balanced with a compressed work week for the 4 months of the off season. Benefits and compensation package includes competitive salary; medical, dental, life and disability insurances; paid time off; holidays; 401(k) with match; and product discount. If you or someone you know is qualified and interested in our opportunity, please email your resume to sandyv@chaletnursery.com