GARDEN CREW MEMBER (Full-Time and Part-time, SEASONAL)
Effective: December 2014

Since 2005, The Organic Gardener Ltd. (TOG) has been installing and tending organic vegetable gardens in Chicago, primarily on the North Shore. Our mission is to educate children and families about the benefits of organic gardening and provide them with the tools, skills and materials they need to grow healthful, vibrant food at home. We hold a high standard of design expertise and attention to detail in design and implementation.

WORK WEEK: The Garden Maintenance Manager communicates the work schedule, which is dictated by the garden maintenance and planting schedule. Workdays are typically 8.5 hours, which includes 30 minutes for lunch and two 15-minute breaks. These hours will vary seasonally, depending on need. Saturday availability is a must (but will vary with need).

REPORTS TO: Garden Maintenance Manager, Lead Gardener, and Chief Operations Officer

BASIC ROLE and RESPONSIBILITIES: A garden crew member is expected to be an outdoor professional, working in all conditions to maintain the health and aesthetics of our organic vegetable gardens, while positively interacting with clients and their children. Garden maintenance crew members are also expected to assist with all aspects of TOG’s needs, including early season soil preparation and end of season project support.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Help with all aspects of planting and tending organic fruit and vegetable gardens, including transplanting, seeding, thinning, weeding, fertilizing, pruning, harvesting, etc.
- Work with clients and their families by teaching directly in the garden
- Follow all of our Maintenance Protocols
- Properly fill out detailed garden visit record immediately following each visit
- Communicate garden issues and concerns in a timely manner (both internally and externally with clients)
- Stock crew vehicles with plants, seeds and supplies before each shift
- Assist with tool and supply inventory
- Assist in caring for transplants at our headquarters, including plant propagation
- Attend weekly crew member meetings and participate when necessary
- Keep the vehicles neat and tidy
Employees of The Organic Gardener will receive a Policy and Procedures document, which governs our expectations regarding uniform requirements, punctuality, and appropriate behavior with clients and among fellow employees. Following these procedures is an important component of employment with The Organic Gardener.

Reliable transportation is required to our headquarters in Highland Park, IL on a daily basis. A clean driving record and valid driver’s license is also required.

To apply, please email a cover letter describing your interest in this position and what you hope to gain from the experience, a resume, and professional references to: info@theorganicgardener.net.