

## **Plimoth Plantation Job Description**

Department: MEG  
Job Title: Museum Gardener  
Reports to: Curator of Museum Gardens  
FLSA Status: Non-Exempt  
Position: FT/YR  
Supervises: None  
Key Relationships: Director of Living History Exhibits; Facilities Manager; Manager, Historical Built Landscapes; Guest Experience Managers; Agriculture Manager; Public Programs Manager

### **OVERVIEW**

This is an opportunity to work at one of the country's most prestigious living history museums. Operating on a remarkable property overlooking Cape Cod Bay, Plimoth Plantation brings the story of America's early foundation to life for hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. Our gardens are a unique heritage landscape for current and future generations to experience and enjoy. This position is part of the team responsible for the upkeep and development of the Museum's gardens and landscapes. By maintaining excellent standards of presentation of the gardens and landscapes you will contribute to guests' enjoyment of this unique outdoor Museum. We are seeking an individual who will greet with energy and enthusiasm the challenges and opportunities inherent in the maintenance of gardens.

This is very much a hands-on job and most of the work during spring, summer and fall is the day-to-day physical work of maintaining the gardens. We will provide on the job training but you will need to have some horticulture experience or training, perhaps through working in a similar role, and/or through relevant educational experience. You should have a verifiable reputation for excellence in your work. You possess the energy, vision and drive to be part of a team that will achieve great results. You are equally effective and efficient working independently and as part of a highly collaborative team.

If you have the relevant skills, proven experience, and are committed to high standards in your work; if you are passionate about maintaining and developing beautiful historical and traditional New England gardens; if you thrive on getting dirt under your fingernails, enjoy working in a busy outdoor environment in all kinds of weather; and you see yourself as part of a multi-disciplinary team; and are excited about sharing your vision and skills with the public; then this may be the perfect job for you.

### **Primary Responsibilities and Duties**

- Maintain gardens throughout the Museum's grounds including the 100 year old formal garden with pool
- Weed, water, fertilize and plant gardens
- Seed saving
- Grow plants in the greenhouse
- Garden design and installation
- Talk with Museum guests, sharing plant and garden information with them while you work in the gardens
- Lead public programs (e.g. garden walks and talks), special events or demonstrations, plant sales, seed saving projects, etc.
- Plan and conduct horticultural workshops

- Participation in and preparation for museum special events
- Assist with research, staff training, materials, and office work
- Provide a friendly and welcoming presence for all guests and coworkers throughout the Museum
- Support the Museum's mission, vision, core values and customer service philosophy

This description is not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, skills, requirements or working conditions associated with the job. While this is intended to be an accurate reflection of key responsibilities of the job as it is at present, management reserves the right to revise the job or to require that other or different tasks be performed as assigned. This job description may be reviewed by management at any time either to ensure that it relates to the job currently being performed, or to incorporate changes. Management reserves the right to change a job description; and if/when doing so will discuss with the employee(s) concerned so that any changes are understood by employee(s).

#### **QUALIFICATIONS: KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS**

- Related horticulture education, or 3-5 years' equivalent experience, in a horticulture/gardening position
- Basic computer skills

#### **INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**

- Reliability, dependability and punctuality
- Patience and imperturbability
- Courteousness
- Ability to communicate skillfully with a wide range of people from different cultural and social backgrounds, varying ages, language skills and physical abilities. Engaging and creative personality for sharing the Museum's comprehensive themes and content in ways that inform and entertain informal learners
- Ability to interpret and apply the information you learn
- Flexible, detail oriented, self-motivated, positive, good with people

#### **PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED**

- Knowledge of early colonial gardens, and/or early American garden history, and/or New England garden history; willingness to learn more about the subject.
- Ability to identify and treat appropriately a range of common horticultural pests and diseases

#### **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The physical demands outlined here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to perform successfully the essential functions of the job. The work requires strenuous activity necessitating good cardiovascular condition, and there can be significant repetitive or strenuous motion necessary to accomplish certain tasks. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Perform physical activities in a variety of environmental conditions that require moderate to maximum strength including climbing, lifting, balancing, bending, kneeling, walking, and handling of materials weighing up to 50 lbs. Transport wheel barrows and carts with bulk materials.

Comfortable working on your feet for long periods of time

Operate gardening equipment and tools, including electric or gas-powered tools

Lift, carry and place a variety of plants and bushes used in the gardening and maintenance process. The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. This work is conducted outdoors most of the time therefore there is the likelihood of frequent exposure to hot and/or humid or cold or wet conditions. The noise level in the workplace varies from quiet to loud.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Must be available to work some weekend days and holidays as requested by your supervisor.
- Flexibility in work hours and days off is required. Occasional evening work.
- Must be able to drive self to offsite events and locations. Current valid driver's license required.

**Please send cover letter and resume to:**

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Plimoth Plantation  
P.O. Box 1620  
Plymouth, MA 02362

or [shaverstock@plimoth.org](mailto:shaverstock@plimoth.org)