

Horticulturist at Mount Auburn Cemetery

Organization:

Mount Auburn Cemetery comprises 175 acres and is situated in Watertown and Cambridge near Boston, Massachusetts. Founded in 1831, and now visited by over 200,000 people each year, Mount Auburn is a National Historic Landmark, recognized as the first “rural cemetery” and the inspiration for the American Parks Movement during the 19th century. As an active cemetery, Mount Auburn inspires all who visit, comforts the bereaved, and commemorates the dead in a landscape of exceptional beauty. As an accredited arboretum, Mount Auburn features 5,000 trees and more than 20,000 plants overall.

Role and Responsibilities:

Responsible for landscape maintenance and horticulture projects at Mount Auburn as assigned by the Director of Ornamental Horticulture, including but not limited to weeding, mulching, watering, pruning, bed preparation, planting, edging, watering, fertilizing, picking up branches and record keeping. Oversees year-round staff, seasonal staff, and volunteers, as assigned.

- Perform daily situational awareness within zone to manage litter or landscape issues that arise and impact the overall guest experience.
- Supervise and lead year-round staff, seasonal work force and volunteers as needed, to achieve short- and long-term horticultural goals
- Supervise and perform planting and maintenance of assigned plant beds and planters, including plant material such as groundcovers, trees, shrubs and perennials. Perform any additional horticulture tasks at Mount Auburn as requested.
- Maintain plant records in accordance with Mount Auburn practices.
- Assist Arboriculture Team and other Horticulturalists as requested.
- Responsible for diagnosing plant pest problems, recommending treatments and plant health care improvements, keeping all appropriate records, and performing pesticide spraying and treatments for the outdoor plant collection of the Cemetery
- In coordination with the Horticultural Curator and Director of Ornamental Horticulture, research, plan and implement regular horticultural enhancements.
- Work with the team for snow removal as needed
- Occasionally lead tours of Cemetery for plant societies, horticultural and school groups, donors, etc. May assist with special events such as Arbor Day or conduct programs for the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery
- May be required to perform other duties as requested by the Director of Ornamental Horticulture to assist other Sections or Departments or to improve the Mount Auburn landscape in whatever way requested.
- Responsible for safe and proper use of all vehicles and equipment used.
- Follow all Cemetery safety policies and procedures related to assigned tasks, including wearing personal protective equipment (eye and hearing protecting, gloves, etc.), proper handling of chemicals, ladder safety, and lifting and moving heavy objects. Bring unsafe conditions to the attention of the Director of Ornamental Horticulture and makes suggestions to improve safe working practices.

- Expected to appropriately represent Mount Auburn at all times when at work; in demeanor, attitude, work clothes and written & verbal communication. Must present a good professional image per the Cemetery's dress code policy.

Qualifications and physical demands include but are not limited to:

- Degree in Ornamental Horticulture or related field or equivalent training or experience required.
- Five years of horticulture work experience with increasing supervisory experience running landscaping crews
- Proven ability to direct staff and run work crews. Must be able to make sound decisions efficiently and confidently often under pressure and in stressful situations.
- Organized and independent worker able to self-start and prioritize workloads.
- Experience working in private estate, high-end residential landscaping or public horticulture is desired.
- Ability to obtain a Commercial Pesticide Applicator's License in "Shade Trees and Ornamentals" (Category 36) within one year of hire, understanding that applying pesticides may be required.
- Ability to obtain a Massachusetts Hoisting License 2A within one year of hire.
- MCA, MCH or ISA designation is highly desirable.
- A valid driver's license required.
- Ability to communicate successfully and tactfully with staff, outside vendors and contractors, lot owners, customers, and visitors.
- Proficiency in basic computer skills and programs such as Outlook, Excel, Word, Powerpoint or willingness and ability to learn.
- Bilingual communicator in Spanish a plus (not required), fluency in English required.
- Ability to shovel soil, snow, and mulch and to lift fertilizer, lime, soil mixes, peatmoss, trees, shrubs and logs up to 50 pounds.
- Ability to use and operate, or willingness to learn, a variety of hand tools and power equipment such as pole pruners, leafblower, snowblower, backhoe, chipper, chain saws, and all other arboricultural equipment.
- Ability to bend, walk, and/or stand for long periods of time.
- Expected to work outdoors in all seasons, including harsh weather conditions.

7:30 AM to 3:30 PM from Monday to Friday. Occasional evenings and weekends as required.

How to Apply:

Please send a cover letter stating your career goals and objectives with a current resume, as Microsoft Word documents, and include "Horticulturist" in the subject area, to:

jobs@mountauburn.org

Or by mail to: Human Resources
Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. No telephone calls please.