



Native Garden Volunteer

Service Summary: Native Garden volunteers maintain the Museum's Native Plants Garden, which showcases a variety of traditional Native American food staples and desert plants used for construction, clothing, and medicinal purposes. Native Garden volunteers design, plant, water, and weed the garden and assist staff in teaching audiences about Sonoran Desert plants.

Supervisor: Curator of Exhibits and Digital Content/Volunteer Program Specialist

Duties:

- Familiarize yourself with garden procedures (i.e., watering, logbook recording, pest control, plant plots, soil tilling, etc.) during training
- Attend garden team meetings regularly (the purpose of the meetings is to discuss garden-related issues as a group and find solutions to problems; when attending meetings, be prepared to contribute ideas and participate in group discussion)
- Work with the group in the garden to implement solutions discussed in garden team meeting
- Come in one morning each week to water and maintain the garden

Available Days and Times:

- Flexible
- Summer hours are required to be early mornings

Required Time Commitment:

- Minimum 1 hour per week
- Garden team meetings are usually the first Wednesday of each month

Required Training:

- Orientation
- Archaeology 101
- Museum 101
- Observe/work with an experienced garden volunteer before working independently
- Attend garden meetings regularly
- Observe and shadow an experienced Native Garden Volunteer and meet with Curator of Exhibits and Digital Content before tending the garden alone



**Required Skills:**

- Strong time management and able to work independently
- Willingness to get dirty
- Flexibility and creativity
- Ability to work outdoors for extended periods of time (even in the summer months)

Additional Helpful Skills:

- Gardening experience desirable, but not required
- Able to lift 20+ lbs.
- Interest in archaeology, history, anthropology, and/or historic preservation

Desired Impact on Museum and Visitors:

- To advance the educational mission of the Museum through thoughtful and attractive presentation of plants and prehistoric farming methods
- To advance the preservation mission of the Museum through the continued use of prehistoric farming methods and heirloom plants

Benefits to Volunteer:

- Gain an understanding of the purpose and activities of the Museum
- Acquire new skills related to teaching, public speaking, and program facilitation
- Increase your professional development skills
- Access to resource publications, lesson plans, exhibit guides, and background materials on the Museum and exhibitions
- Opportunities to participate in workshops and attend continuing education classes, lectures, exhibition openings, and trips
- Access to conduct research in the S'edav Va'aki Museum's Research Library
- Opportunities to develop friendships with others who share similar interests
- Free admission to the Museum For only the Volunteer
- Participate in the annual Volunteer Recognition event each spring
- Discount in Museum Store

