

## Beekeeper and Horticulturalist

**Reports to:** Interpretation and Exhibits Coordinator

**FLSA:** Hourly, non-exempt

**Summary:** This position's time is evenly split between the Education and Horticulture departments at CMBG. Under the supervision and mentorship of the Interpretation and Exhibits Coordinator, the Beekeeper and Horticulturalist will provide informal education to visitors, play a major role in staffing the Gardens' new, live honey bee learning hub (the Learning Apiary), and support other live interpretive programs.

The Beekeeper and Horticulturalist is also the primary staff member responsible for the Gardens' bee colonies, which are an integrated part of the Learning Apiary. This includes swarm management, ongoing seasonal management, and honey harvest. Finally, this position will join the Horticulture team for associated duties in public garden management.

**Essential Functions:** *(This job requires the performance of the following tasks, with or without accommodation. Incumbents may be regularly or occasionally required to assume additional responsibilities or perform additional tasks.)*

Working closely with both the Education and Horticulture departments, the Beekeeper and Horticulturalist will hold primary responsibility for the Gardens' beekeeping operations. Responsibilities will include management of 6-10 honey bee colonies, educational programming for CMBG youth programs, live interpretation and guest programs, and horticultural duties. A goal of the position is to incorporate beekeeping operations into both the visitor experience and the work of the Horticulture department.

Beekeeping and Interpretation (50%)

- Oversee the management of CMBG-based honey bee colonies, including swarm management, seasonal management, and honey harvest.
- Learn the art and science of live interpretation and provide regular interpretation to guests.
- Interact formally and informally with guests to increase their interest in and knowledge of pollinators and their contributions to the environment.
- Conduct basic research on pollinators at the Gardens.

Horticulture (50%)

- Ornamental gardening, including planting, mulching, weeding, staking, dead-heading, pruning, watering, pest identification and integrated pest management, plant identification, and developing knowledge of plant, design, and material needs.
- General maintenance of gardens, horticulture buildings, and equipment, including raking, sweeping, cleaning, sharpening, and performing repairs as needed.
- Plant curation—may include labeling, record-keeping, mapping, plant photography, and phenology.

**Qualifications:**

- Highly motivated and self-directed.
- Comfortable interacting with the public.
- Solid interest in insects, plants, nature, ecology, and a desire to learn more.
- Sufficient demonstrated experience to independently manage 6-10 honey bee hives.
- Background in entomology, botany, horticulture, or other natural sciences is desirable, but not required.

**Work schedule:** This is a paid seasonal position, 40 hours/week, regularly including some weekend days. Flexible start and end date (approximately mid-April to mid-October). Assistance finding housing is available.

**Physical and environmental factors:**

This is an active job requiring walking, standing, kneeling, squatting, bending, and reaching up to eight hours at a time. Work is performed primarily outdoors, and the incumbent will be exposed to inclement weather (hot, cold, wet). Requires the ability to communicate verbally in English.

*This is not necessarily an exhaustive list of responsibilities, skills, duties, requirements, efforts, or working conditions associated with the job. While this job description is intended to be an accurate reflection of the current job, the company reserves the right to revise the functions and duties of the job or to require that additional or different tasks be performed when circumstances dictate (such as emergencies, changes in personnel, work load, rush jobs, or technological developments).*

Apply by Friday, February 5, 2021; e-mail resume, cover letter, and three references to: Vanessa Nesvig, Interpretation and Exhibits Coordinator at [vnesvig@mainegardens.org](mailto:vnesvig@mainegardens.org)