Teen Volunteer Position Description

Position Title: Teen Green Team

Program Summary: Sustainability is one of the Denver Botanic Garden's core values. The Gardens Teen Green Team is instrumental in educating and motivating Garden visitors to live sustainably. Teen volunteers are needed to staff recycling/composting stations at the Gardens during high-traffic times in the summer season. The Teen Green Team members will work closely with Operations staff to promote and highlight the Gardens’ environmental efforts during interactions with visitors.

Length of Commitment: The Teen Green Team program runs from June through July, with possible extension into mid-August. Shifts are from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on weekdays, and volunteers will commit to one weekly reoccurring shift (e.g. every Wednesday). Shifts will not happen on a day when the Gardens is hosting a summer concert.

Purpose of Position: To educate visitors about the Gardens’ sustainability efforts and help correctly sort items into the three-bin system (Trash, Recycling, Compost), ultimately helping to divert recyclable or compostable items from going to the landfill.

Key Responsibilities:

1) Engage visitors in conversation about sorting their trash and why it’s important
2) Educate visitors about which products are recyclable and compostable
3) Ensure that recyclable items such as aluminum cans go into the correct receptacle
4) Ensure that compostable items such as food and paper go into the correct receptacle
5) Remove compostable/recyclable items from the trash and place into proper receptacle
6) Provide information to visitors about Denver Botanic Gardens’ environmental efforts

Qualifications:

- Interest in sustainability efforts or green initiatives
- Friendly, outgoing, and comfortable talking to diverse visitors
- Not afraid to get dirty in the name of sustainability! (aprons and gloves will be provided)
- Willing to work outside in conditions that can be hot and sunny
- Physically prepared to work outside (stay hydrated, use sunscreen, wear appropriate clothing for weather conditions and summer season, etc.)
- Good range of physical motion: standing, kneeling, walking, bending, etc.
- Ability to stay calm during busy times
- Ability to work both independently and within a team
- Knowledge of Gardens and surrounding area (or willingness to learn)
- Bilingual skills a plus

Training: Teen Green Team members will meet with the Gardens’ staff Green Team to be trained. Date TBD.

Program Requirements: In order to apply for this position, teens must be at least 13 years of age as of May 31, 2020. Once selected, one shift per week is required. If a teen must miss a shift because of
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vacation or illness, he/she is encouraged to make up any missed time by picking up another shift if possible.

Items to Bring: Water bottle and sunscreen; wear a hat and closed toed shoes. You may be working outside in the summer sun, so please prepare accordingly.

Age Requirement: 13-17 years old

Reports to: Lori Rowe, Manager of Facility Services, and Operations staff

Location: York Street