



Position Overview

Farm Manager

[The Farm at Sunnyside](#) in Rappahannock County, Virginia seeks a farm manager to oversee its business, which its owners view as a social enterprise integrating agriculture with the goals of biodiversity conservation, climate stability, ecological restoration and a robust local food economy. The farm has a proven track record of using regenerative practices to grow certified organic fruits and vegetables. It looks to build on this success with a partner who brings the knowledge, experience, passion and vision to make the farm a cutting-edge example of eco-agriculture.

Located 70 miles west of Washington, D.C., the farm dates to 1749 and is one of Virginia's historic properties. It directly borders Shenandoah National Park and includes a mix of cultivated fields, orchards, forest, native grasslands, riparian corridors and permanent water sources. Currently about 10% of its 420 acres are dedicated to agricultural production. The remainder is managed largely for biodiversity and beneficial ecosystem services.

The farm has extensive infrastructure, equipment and housing. It retains existing staff as well as established positions in local farmers' markets, relationships with restaurants and wholesale outlets and ongoing partnerships with several research institutions.

Sunnyside's owners are looking for a highly motivated individual to lead the next chapter in the farm's evolution, to collaborate in co-designing a long-term vision for the property, and to share the benefits and importance of eco-agriculture with external audiences. The farm is particularly interested in building increased long-term economic and environmental resilience, including through strategically integrating agroforestry and potentially livestock.

If you're ready to step into this role, you'll be able to demonstrate:

- Deep understanding of and at least 5 years' experience with organic and ecological agriculture/land management, preferably including vegetable production;
- Proven ability to lead and manage a small staff and foster a collaborative and safe work environment;
- Strong communication and promotional skills, including the capacity to share Sunnyside's vision and mission with diverse stakeholders, from policy makers to local school groups;
- High tolerance for multi-tasking;
- Devotion to stewardship of the land and to continuous learning and experimentation;
- Capacity to build relationships with like-minded regenerative farmers and land managers;
- Ability to oversee the farm budget and finances;

- Commitment to preventive maintenance of physical infrastructure and equipment and the skill set to oversee needed upgrades and repairs;
- Willingness to work long and often unpredictable hours, undertake occasionally demanding outdoor physical labor and live in a rural location and community with limited access to nearby amenities;
- Desire to co-create and partner with Sunnyside's owners as they seek to make the farm a powerful example of organic, regenerative agriculture and ecological restoration.

You'll also be able to tell us why you want to work as Farm Manager at The Farm at Sunnyside and how your experience has equipped you for this role.

We ask for all inquiries and applications, including a resume and cover letter, to be sent via email to:

sunnysidefarmapplications@gmail.com

The Farm at Sunnyside is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage diverse applicants to apply. We also welcome applicants who may want to include a partner/spouse as a key collaborator in the unfolding vision and work at Sunnyside. Farm Manager housing includes space for children.

We will review applications on a rolling basis beginning January 2, 2021.