

Rest-Stop-Ranch Inc.

Seasonal Part-Time Job

Rose Curator

Working alongside the Garden Guru (a more general garden manager), the curator will focus on the rose collection thriving. S/he will help inventory and document, weed, fertilize and prune.

Wage = \$15./hr.

Time = 8 hrs./wk.

Duration = Approx. 25 weeks, 50 3-hr sessions, March - November

Schedule = Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3-hour shifts;
Wednesday 10am-12pm, Team Meeting

Program Description & Provisions

Rest-Stop-Ranch is an accredited arboretum as of 2025 December. A big part of the arboretum is the 100 wheelchair-accessible rose collection, in bloom June - November. Guests reserve private garden time Tuesdays/Thursdays, 1pm - 4pm, April - November. A Garden Guru (co-worker) manages the overall gardens as well as garden volunteers. **The Rose Curator role is specifically to nurture a thriving rose collection.**

The Rose Curator will be responsible for their own clothing and hand tools (pruners, etc.). Rest-Stop-Ranch has many tools available for volunteer use, which the curator may also use.

Role Description & Responsibilities

A. Rose Collection Care

Care for 100+ roses (climbers, shrubs & miniature roses), March - November.

B. Rose Collection Documentation & Labels

Provide labels on the plants and assist with documentation & inventory.

C. Team Meeting

Wednesday, 10am - 12pm, meet at the Cottage with the rest of the small professional team.

D. New England Rose Society Engagement

Meet members of the New England Rose Society and attend a few of their educational events.

Required Experience, Abilities & Skills

- Self-motivated with a positive can-do attitude, an open mind, and good hygiene
- An enthusiastic willingness to represent Rest-Stop-Ranch's mission and vision
- Experience successfully caring for plants - a green garden
- Experience coordinating plant documentation, labels, inventory, etc.
- Ability to lift 40lb bags of compost or fertilizer
- Ability to see/hear/speak clearly, and move about the 100 roses easily
- Ability to work with the roses, rain or shine (weeding, deadheading, pest management)
- Ability to kneel on the ground or with a kneeling pad/stool for extended periods
- Ability to push/pull a loaded wheelbarrow up and down slopes over a distance
- Skill to welcome all people without judgement or bias
- Skill to collect and manage carefully plant information
- Skill to write clearly with pen on paper
- Skill to communicate verbally and non-verbally
- Skill to create a safe environment, assess dynamic safety, and follow safety best practices
- Skill to "keep calm and carry on" with a sense of humor

Ideal Candidate

A mature individual able to commit to the full season schedule, March - November. Spring/Summer vacation time is ideally discussed and pre-planned at beginning of season.

Helpful Experiences:

- Personal or Professional Plant Care/Gardening
- Botany/Horticultural background or education
- Some rose knowledge (i.e. how to dead-head a rose)
- Interest or knowledge in horticultural therapy practices

2026 Public Health/COVID Safety Practices in the Garden

The Rose Curator is responsible for their own safety and for creating a safe environment for guests. Face-masks in the garden and inside the Cottage are optional. Hand-sanitizer will be available at the Welcome Table.

The Rose Curator reports to the Director.

Recruiting for this Job

2026 January - February

Training for this Job

2026 March

Apply for this Job:

Please e-mail to mary@rest-stop-ranch.org, hiring manager, or post mail to:

Mary E MacDonald

Rest-Stop-Ranch

202 Haverhill Road

Topsfield, MA 01983

- A cover letter
- A volunteer application, 4 pages complete.

Thanks for your interest in joining our team at Rest-Stop-Ranch!