

Volunteer



Garden Crew Volunteer

On-site at Rest-Stop-Ranch, Topsfield, MA

Rest Stop Ranch is a trusted and inclusive community destination for respite, recreation, education, and healing throughout and beyond the long-term-care journey. We provide spiritual, psycho-social, and emotional support to long-term care givers and receivers. We are seeking passionate, joyful volunteers to join our Garden Crew and help maintain our two-acre, wheelchair-accessible sanctuary gardens.

The Successful Candidate for Garden Crew Volunteer will:

- **Maintain Accessible Gardens:** Assist in the upkeep of our wheelchair-accessible trail system and garden beds to ensure they remain safe and beautiful for all guests.
- **Diverse Garden Tasks:** Depending on skill level and interest, engage in flower care, perennial bed maintenance, and lawn care.
- **Support Sanctuary Wildlife:** Help with bird care, including the maintenance and filling of on-site bird feeders.
- **Engage with a Team:** Contribute joyfully to a passionate team of volunteers and staff to meet seasonal organizational goals.

Required Training & Skills

- **No Experience Necessary:** We welcome all levels of gardening knowledge; training is provided on-site.

- **Compassion & Empathy:** A strong desire to act for the mission of Rest Stop Ranch and support those on the long-term-care journey.
- **Reliability:** The ability to work consistently and independently to meet the maintenance needs of the sanctuary.
- **Positive Communication:** Excellent communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a diverse group of team members and guests.

The Ideal Candidate

- A retired person, stay-at-home parent, or anyone with a flexible daytime schedule who wants to spend restorative time in a garden setting.
- Someone looking to be part of a supportive team and meet new friends while contributing to a vital community cause.

Time Commitment & Frequency

- **Location:** All work is performed on-site at our sanctuary in Topsfield, MA.
- **Schedule:** Recurring weekly commitment on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
- **Commitment:** A few hours per week during the active gardening season.

Safety & Care Policy

For insurance and safety purposes, Rest Stop Ranch staff and volunteers do not provide direct physical assistance, including lifting, pushing wheelchairs, or assisting with personal hygiene.

How to Apply:

Rest Stop Ranch volunteers must be at least 14 years old and must follow the professional standards outlined in our handbook.

To apply, please send a Rest-Stop-Ranch Member Application and a brief cover letter outlining your interest in gardening to:

- **Email:** Volunteer@rest-stop-ranch.org
- **Online:** Download the Application from: [2026 Member Application](#)
- **Handbook:** Review the 2025 Volunteer Handbook: [2025 Handbook](#)