

Rest-Stop-Ranch Inc.

Seasonal Part-Time Job

“Where every nose may smell a rose”

Rose Assistant

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

Wage = \$15./hr.

Time = 8 hrs./wk.

Duration = Approx. 25 weeks, 50 4-hr sessions, March - November

Schedule = Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-hour shifts;

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 Assistant role is specifically to nurture a thriving rose collection.**

The Rose Assistant 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. 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 Assistant 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.

The Rose Assistant reports to the Director.

Recruiting for this Job

2026 Spring

Training for this Job

2026 Spring

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!