



Plant Propagator Position Available

Description

The Morris Arboretum & Gardens of the University of Pennsylvania, located in the beautiful Chestnut Hill neighborhood of Philadelphia, is one of America's oldest and most respected arboreta. We are seeking an experienced, full-time Plant Propagator with a strong passion for plants and public horticulture to join our team. This role is responsible for propagating and cultivating a diverse range of woody and herbaceous plants for research purposes and public display within our 10,000-square-foot greenhouse complex, historic Victorian Fernery, and half-acre field nursery.

Duties

The Plant Propagator is responsible for the propagation and cultivation of plants to support the Arboretum's living collections, horticultural displays, and plant distribution programs. This role requires maintaining detailed and accurate records of plant production, sourcing plant material, and meeting established production targets to fulfill the needs of horticultural and research staff. The Plant Propagator also provides leadership and oversight for part-time staff, apprentices, and volunteers, ensuring adherence to best practices in plant care and propagation techniques.

Other duties include:

- Implement an integrated pest management program for the nursery.
- Coordinate procurement and distribution of plants for Arboretum staff and the member dividend program.
- Oversee the operation of the greenhouse and the historic Dorrance H. Hamilton Fernery.
- Share your expertise through teaching and lectures for Morris Arboretum/Penn and other audiences.
- Occasional weekend work required.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements

- **Education:** Bachelor's degree in horticulture or a closely related field.
- **Experience:** Minimum of three years in plant propagation and nursery production; experience in a public garden setting is highly preferred.
- **Skills:** Strong teaching and writing abilities are highly desirable. Proficiency in operating machinery is a plus.
- **Licenses:** Valid driver's license required; Pennsylvania Pesticide Applicator's License must be obtained upon employment.
- **Physical Requirements:** Ability to lift up to 50 pounds, work outdoors in all weather conditions, and perform tasks involving walking, standing, and stooping for extended periods.
- **Compensation & Benefits:** Salary commensurate with experience. Includes excellent professional development opportunities, health coverage, and retirement benefits through the University of Pennsylvania.

Please apply through the Careers@Penn website: https://wd1.myworkdaysite.com/en-US/recruiting/upenn/careers-at-penn/job/Morris-Arboretum/Propagator-Grower--Morris-Arboretum--Gardens_JR00114966