



Green Village Initiative

Volunteer Guidelines

2023

Thank you for volunteering with Green Village Initiative (GVI)! Our volunteer days are open to anyone and everyone! We require a strong work ethic and an interest in learning about food justice, farming, and gardening.

We request that you schedule your volunteer day with us in advance by emailing info@gogvi.org. For groups of 4 or more, or to volunteer on a day Tuesday through Friday, **we require scheduling at least 2 weeks in advance.**

Volunteer tasks at the farm include weeding, beautification, planting, and other gardening projects. You will learn beside us through hands-on experience! Let us know if you have previous experience with farming/gardening, landscaping, carpentry, crafting/painting, or experience using power tools!

Please distribute this document and the Volunteer Waiver form to your ENTIRE group. If any volunteer or visitor does not wish to appear in GVI photos, they must inform the GVI Volunteer Lead on the volunteer day.

General Guidelines for Green Village Initiative Volunteers

- **Bee aware of beehives:** We ask that any volunteer with a bee allergy always carry an epi-pen with them.
- **Volunteers with allergies:** Please inform your Volunteer Lead organizer of any allergies at least one week prior to your day-of-service by email. Carry an inhaler or epi-pen on site.
- **Monitor your body's needs:** Let the GVI Volunteer Lead know of any pre-existing conditions before starting your volunteer day. Take plenty of breaks, drink lots of water, & dress appropriately. Plan ahead and dress for the weather. We ask that all volunteers wear close-toed shoes.
- **Bring a refillable water bottle:** It's important to stay hydrated throughout the volunteer day.
- **1 adult chaperone for every 5 youth under the age of 18:** Youth under 18 must be supervised by a chaperone while on site.
- **Please follow the instructions given to you by GVI team members.**
- **Limit distractions. Being present is a matter of safety:** Please refrain from using cell phones & headphones on site, unless an emergency arises.
- **Respect your fellow volunteers:** Discriminatory behavior will result in being asked to leave GVI sites.
- **Keep valuables at home:** GVI is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- **Respect the site and the community:** Please pick up after yourself and do not litter. Use tools appropriately, clean them, and put them away when finished for the next urban farmer.

Volunteer tasks at GVI sites can include:

- Building new garden beds.
- Filling beds with soil via shovels and wheelbarrows.
- Spreading wood chips throughout walkways.
- Weeding beds and walkways.
- Litter pick-up and neighborhood beautification.
- Sharing fliers with nearby neighbors or businesses to connect them to their local garden.



- Additional gardening tasks.

Volunteering at Reservoir Community Farm

We host open volunteer hours at our urban farm, Reservoir Community Farm, on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. from April 1st into November, with some exceptions.

Reservoir Community Farm is located at 1469 Reservoir Avenue with parking and the entrance on Yaremich Drive.

Volunteering at Community Gardens

Green Village Initiative manages 12 community gardens and supports many school gardens in Bridgeport. Each site is unique. If you have scheduled a group in advance, we may select a community garden to accommodate your volunteer day. We will send specific information about your volunteer location before your scheduled volunteer day.

A list of garden locations can be found on our website : www.goGVI.org

Your help is invaluable to urban agriculture and food justice in Bridgeport! Please let us know if you have any questions: info@goGVI.org or 203-612-4107