



GARDEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THANKSGIVING POINT

Volunteers are an essential part of the Thanksgiving Point Team, especially in the garden. Our goal is to provide a rewarding volunteer experience through formal and informal opportunities to increase horticultural knowledge, develop new friendships, and enjoy the beauty of the gardens. The following pages provide more detailed information about each garden volunteer opportunity throughout the Thanksgiving Point Campus.

QUESTIONS? contact Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org



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ASHTON GARDENS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ATEC MENTOR

Assist the horticulture staff while offering guidance, friendship and support as you mentor our ATEC interns. ATEC is the Alpine Transition and Education Center which encompasses a supportive, educational environment designed to transition students ages 18-22 with differing abilities to the adult world through the development of personal skills and abilities.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Willing to work alongside and encourage young adult volunteers with differing abilities. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Thursdays in the Light of the World Garden and Fridays doing Tree Ring Maintenance from 9:15-10:30 am. Beginning the first Thursday after the end the Tulip Festival. (April – May, August – October)
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

FRAGRANCE GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the horticulture staff in planting and maintaining the Fragrance Garden. The beds are raised which make it a great gardening opportunity if you have any physical limitations. Your knowledge of deadheading, weeding and pruning of summer annuals and perennials will grow while working in this garden. Plus, it always smells amazing!

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Tuesdays from 9:15-11:15 am beginning the first Tuesday after the end the Tulip Festival. (May – August) · Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

GARDEN CULTIVATOR

Assist the horticulture staff in leading volunteer shifts for a specific garden area. When a staff member is not present the garden cultivator would be responsible for supervising the garden volunteers for that shift.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Good leader, able to give clear directions. · Willing to share a “Horticulture Moment” each month. (Prepared by staff and cultivators.) · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Currently all garden cultivator positions are filled. · If interested in being placed on a list, please email Angela Free at afree@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Weekly commitment. (We understand that vacations and other situations arise and can be flexible.) · One-time Garden Cultivator Training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

LEARNING GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the horticulture staff in planting and maintaining the Learning Garden. If you have a keen interest in growing food, this is the place for you! We do it all: planting, trellising, mulching, harvesting and more!

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:15-11:15 am (May – August). Beginning the first week after the end the Tulip Festival. · Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the horticulture staff in maintaining the Light of the World Garden. In this sacred statue garden, we carefully tend to raking the paths, maintaining the plants and cleaning the statues.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interest in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, rake and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 am April – October. · Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. Continuous on the job training.

ROSE GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the horticulture staff in planting and maintaining the Rose Garden. The Rose Garden is one of the most iconic photo ops at Ashton Gardens. Help us keep it beautiful for our guests as you learn all about proper rose care. You will be busy deadheading, pruning, training, watering, fertilizing and weeding.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interest in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fridays from 7:00 – 9:00 am April – September. Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

WATERWISE GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the horticulture staff in planting and maintaining the Waterwise Garden. Here in one of our newest gardens you will get to know a myriad of beautiful and interesting waterwise plants and learn about waterwise plants and maintenance.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interest in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Tuesdays from 7:00 – 9:00 am April – August. Beginning the first week after the end the Tulip Festival.· Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time.· One-time garden volunteer training before first shift.· Continuous on the job training.

GARDEN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

CULTIVATING KIDS VOLUNTEER (Learning Garden)

Share information and engage visitors with hands-on, multi-sensory experiences in the Learning Garden. Be an ambassador for Ashton Gardens both in and out of the garden. Develop content with other Cultivating Kids Volunteers.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Enthusiastic about sharing knowledge and experiences with guests.· Ability to walk and stand. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Wednesdays from 9:45-10:45 am in June and July. The eight shifts will be split between the Cultivating Kids Volunteers.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Commitment to help split the eight shifts of the season with the other Cultivating Kids volunteers.· Attend training and content design in May.

DISCOVERY GUIDE

Share information and engage visitors with hands-on, multi-sensory experiences at Discovery Carts located throughout Ashton Gardens. Be an ambassador for Ashton Gardens both in and out of the garden. Develop content with other Discovery Guides.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. Enthusiastic about sharing knowledge and experiences with guests. Ability to walk and stand. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shifts begin during the Tulip Festival and run through October. Monday - Saturday. 9:30-11:30am, 11:30am-1:30pm, 1:30-3:30pm, 6-8pm Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 shifts a month. 4 shifts during the Tulip Festival in addition to the 2 in April and May. 4 shifts in August with 2 of them on a Tuesday for \$2 Tuesday. 4 shifts in October with 2 of them during the Scarecrow Festival. Attend 2 – two-hour Discovery Guide training classes in March. Attend a once a month Discovery Guide content prep and continuing education meeting. (2nd Wednesday of every month from 8:30-9:30am May-October.)

GARDEN DOCENT

Engage guests in a transformative learning experience throughout the gardens by interpreting the diverse plant collections, landscapes and history of Ashton Gardens by providing guided garden walks.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. Enthusiastic about sharing garden history and plant knowledge with guests. Ability to conduct walking tours throughout the garden. Be an ambassador for Ashton Gardens both in and out of the garden. Must be a Master Gardener or have applicable knowledge and/or experience.
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shifts run the last Saturday of March - the second to last Saturday in October. Garden Walks: M, W, TH, F 9:30-11:30am. Tree Walk: Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am. Roaming Shifts: Daily 9:30-11:30am, 11:30am-1:30pm, 1:30-3:30pm, 6-8pm.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 shifts a month. (All 9:30 shifts must be filled throughout the season.) 4 shifts during the Tulip Festival in addition to the 2 in April and May. 4 shifts in August with 2 of them on a Tuesday for \$2 Tuesday. 4 shifts in October with 2 of them during the Scarecrow Festival. New docents complete six week fall and five week spring training sessions. Attend a once a month Garden Docent content prep and continuing education meeting. (1st Wednesday of every month from 8:30-9:30am May-October.)

GARDEN TEAM OPPORTUNITIES

CONTAINER MAINTENANCE TEAM

Assist the horticulture staff with the planting and maintaining of the beautiful and diverse containers throughout Ashton Gardens.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, weed, carry 10 lbs. and drive a golf cart. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Currently all container maintenance team positions are filled.· If interested in being placed on a list, please email Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Weekly commitment. (We understand that vacations and other situations arise and can be flexible.)· One-time garden volunteer training.· Continuous on the job training.

GREENHOUSE TEAM

Assist propagation staff with various greenhouse planting, transplanting and other special projects.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Willing to work inside a humid greenhouse.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and sit. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Currently all greenhouse team positions are filled.· If interested in being placed on a list, please email Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· One-time garden volunteer training before first shift.· Continuous on the job training.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD STATUE WAXING

Assist horticulture staff with waxing the Light of the World bronze statues. They need continuous upkeep to look their best.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Willing to work with a blow torch.· Ability to walk, stand, and climb a small ladder. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Spring waxing in March· Weekly upkeep throughout the summer.· If interested in being placed on a list, please email Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Weekly commitment. (We understand that vacations and other situations arise and can be flexible.)· One-time garden volunteer training.· Continuous on the job training.

PRUNING TEAM

Assist horticulture staff with pruning needs of the garden shrubs and trees. This is a great opportunity to learn from other skilled volunteers and staff and increase your knowledge of proper pruning techniques.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and climb a small ladder. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)· Pruning knowledge and experience and a willingness to learn.
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Currently all pruning team positions are filled.· If interested in being placed on a list, please email Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Weekly commitment. (We understand that vacations and other situations arise and can be flexible.)· One-time garden volunteer training.· Continuous on the job training.

TREE WALK SIGN CARE

Enjoy a nice weekly walk through gardens checking on the 44 signs that make up our Tree Walk. The signs sometimes need to be straightened and wiped down.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Ability to walk through the garden.
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Once a week, whenever it is convenient.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Weekly commitment. (We understand that vacations and other situations arise and can be flexible.)· One-time garden volunteer training.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

GARDEN CLEAN UP

Assist the horticulture staff with garden clean up in the spring and fall. We will do everything from raking leaves and cutting back perennials to organizing containers and other projects.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Opportunities posted as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Project based come if you can!· On the job training provided.

LUMINARIA SET-UP

Help us get ready for Luminaria. You may be unpacking poinsettias, wrapping lights on Christmas trees or decorating the greenhouse!

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Ability to walk, stand, and maybe climb a short ladder. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Opportunities posted as needed
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Project based come if you can!· On the job training provided.

TULIP BULP DIG & PLANTING

Be a part of the Tulip Team and help us dig up or plant over 280,000 tulips! We plant them in the fall and then dig them up in the spring.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and kneel. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Opportunities posted as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Project based come if you can!· On the job training provided.

TULIP BULB CLEANING

After the Tulip Festival we pull out 280,000 tulips each year. Help us clean them and prepare them for sale in our greenhouse. This is done inside the greenhouse standing or sitting at a table.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and kneel. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Opportunities posted as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Project based come if you can!· On the job training provided.

WATER TOWER CAMPUS

BUTTERFLY BIOSPHERE PLANT MAINTENANCE

Assist horticulture staff in the planting and maintaining of the Butterfly Biosphere. Enjoy gardening among our butterflies and learning more about tropical plants. It does get humid, so be prepared!

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions.· Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge.· Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-9:30am year-round.· Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time.· One-time Butterfly Biosphere Plant Maintenance Training.· Continuous on the job training.

ROSE TRIAL

Participate in collecting and reporting data for the American Rose Trial site that is located at the Water Tower Campus at Thanksgiving Point. A team of two volunteers working independently of each other visit the trial site once a month and collect data, evaluate rose conditions, and enter the data on the Rose Trial Website.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and enter data onto a website. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Currently all Rose Trial team positions are filled. · If interested in being placed on a list, please email Sarah Allred at sallred@thanksgivingpoint.org
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Once a month data collection and reporting. It usually takes 2-3 hours. · One-time Rose Trial Volunteer Training. · Continuous on the job training.

WATER TOWER CAMPUS GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the Horticulture staff in maintaining different garden areas at the Water Tower Campus.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fridays from 10:30am-12:30pm. Begin the week after Alpine School District Spring Break. · Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training. · Continuous on the job training.

FARM COUNTRY

ATEC MENTOR

Assist the horticulture staff and offer guidance, friendship and support as they mentor our ATEC interns. ATEC is the Alpine Transition and Education Center which encompasses a supportive, educational environment designed to transition students ages 18-22 with differing abilities to the adult world through the development of personal skills and abilities.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Willing to work alongside and encourage young adult volunteers with differing abilities. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mondays from 8:30-9:45am. Begin week after Alpine School District Spring Break. April – May.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.

FARM COUNTRY GARDEN VOLUNTEER

Assist the Learning & Engagement staff in planting and maintaining the vegetable gardens at Farm Country. This is a fun opportunity if you enjoy being near the active animals we have at the farm.

Volunteer Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enjoys being outside in various weather conditions. · Interested in gaining horticulture knowledge. · Ability to walk, stand, and weed. (Please talk to us about any physical limitations you might have. We can usually figure something out.)
Available Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mondays from 8:30am – 12:30 pm. Begin week after Alpine School District Spring Break. · Additional opportunities as needed.
Commitment & Training Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consistent commitment would be wonderful, but we would love to have you whenever you can make the time. · One-time garden volunteer training before first shift. · Continuous on the job training.