

Job Description
Sustainable Landscape Assistant
Elizabeth River Project
www.elizabethriver.org

SUMMARY – The Elizabeth River Project seeks a part-time Sustainable Landscape Assistant (up to 20 hours/week) for our River Star Homes Program. The assistant will install residential landscaping projects including rain barrels and lawn care projects.

RESPONSIBILITIES – The Sustainable Landscape Assistant will work directly with the Sustainable Landscape Specialist and homeowners as part of our River Star Homes Program, www.riverstarhomes.org. The top priority will be to implement outdoor “green” landscaping practices. The Assistant will work with other Elizabeth River Project team members to install and recertify rain barrels, plant native plants and assist with organic “lawn makeovers,” which include aerating and spreading compost. Candidates should be willing and able to work outside in all conditions, conducting labor intensive landscaping in an environmentally friendly manner.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Basic landscaping skills required. Handyman skills compatible with installing rain barrels also required.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds.
- Willing and able to work outdoors in all conditions.
- Must be at least 18 years old, and able to safely work with equipment like power cutters.
- Strong “customer service” skills. Must be prompt and professional at all times.
- A “can do” positive attitude is essential, including the ability to grow from feedback and work closely with a team.
- Must have reliable transportation.
- An understanding of environmental stewardship and sustainable landscaping practices is preferred.

PAY RATE – This is a part-time position with a pay rate of \$10 to \$12/hour depending on qualifications. Mileage will be reimbursed for travel on the job.

SCHEDULE – Flexible schedule; some weekends required.

ABOUT ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT – The Elizabeth River Project, www.elizabethriver.org, was incorporated in 1993 with a mission to restore the environmental health of the Elizabeth River through citizen, government and business partnerships. With a waterfront office in downtown Portsmouth, VA., we operate environmental restoration and education programs in four urban cities. Our annual budget of \$2 million comes from memberships, private donors and grants. A full-time staff of 13 operates award-winning programs including:

- River Star Homes program, recruiting over 4,400 homeowners since 2011 in the Elizabeth River Watershed committed to environmental stewardship;

- The Learning Barge, winner of the national education award from AIA, powered by sun and wind with a live wetland nursery, provides field trips to 60 students at a time;
- River Star Businesses program, launched in 1997, numbers 120 businesses who together have reduced pollution by 331 million pounds while restoring or conserving more than 1,780 acres of urban habitat (topic of a national EPA guidebook);
- Hundreds of wetland restorations, stormwater improvements and buffer plantings;
- River Star Schools program, started in 2004, recognizes 180 schools where students have conducted hands-on projects to reduce pollution and restore habitat;
- Paradise Creek Nature Park, a 40-acre waterfront park, with 2 miles of trails, 11 acres of restored wetland open for public paddles and the Fred W. Beazley River Academy currently under construction to provide an enclosed classroom for thousands of students already visiting the park.

TO APPLY – Send cover letter, resume and three references to Barbara Gavin, River Star Homes Program Manager, Elizabeth River Project, 475 Water Street, C103A, Portsmouth, VA 23704. No phone calls please. Email OK (Bgavin@elizabethriver.org), but also send hard copy by mail.