



Youth Volunteer Program 2024 Application Process Summary

Important Dates:

- February 23 – Application deadline
- March 4 – Selection process begins (including interviews)
- April 26– Notification via email of selection
- May 2024 – Training sessions, Final paperwork due
- June 1-July 31 – Date range to complete a minimum of 30 hours
- July 2024– Recognition event and certificates for completion

Requirements to Participate:

- Must be between the ages of 13 and 18 years, turning 13 no later than June 1, 2024
- Must submit completed application by February 23, 2024
- Must be able and willing to complete no less than 30 volunteer hours between June 1 and July 31, 2024
 - Attendance of 2 or more Green Sector career presentations required.

Application Requirements:

- Completed Youth Volunteer Program 2024 Application
- Written essay explaining why you want to volunteer at the Garden
 - 500 words or less
 - Can be handwritten (legibly) or typed
- Reference letter from an adult other than a parent or guardian
 - Should emphasize the applicant's character and how they are well suited to become part of the next generation of environmental stewards
- Completion of a brief interview for select applicants (in-person, over the phone, or via Zoom)

Volunteer Roles and Responsibilities

Note: Each volunteer will participate in some or all that are listed below. Assignments will be based on the interest and availability of Garden staff. The Garden may add additional opportunities at any time.

- Plant Sciences (Formerly Horticulture/Greenhouse)
 - Assist in maintaining the Garden grounds (Planting, mulching, weeding, watering, etc.)
 - Assist in maintaining the Greenhouse (Planting, re-potting, propagation, watering, etc.)
 - Learn about invasive species management and removal
- Education
 - Assist in summer science camp programs
 - Assist in gathering and conceptualizing interpretation
 - Assist with weekend or family programs as scheduled
- Plant Conservation and Curation
 - Record plants and learn about plant documentation
 - Assist with current research projects
- All: Develop an action plan to promote environmental sustainability in your own home landscape.
 - One-page document detailing something you can do at home to increase your sustainability
 - Examples: Composting, reducing chemical use in gardens, recycling, etc.

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Questions? Contact Misty Hertzig at mhertzig@hsvbg.org or 256-830-4447 ext. 253