



WHAT TO EXPECT

when volunteering at Northside

Our 5 acre urban vegetable farm depends on volunteers to produce healthy food for our community. Thank you so much for donating your time and hard work!

SCHEDULE

8:45 am - Arrival. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early to use the restroom, wash your hands, and fill up your water bottle.

9:00 am - Educational Tour. We like to provide volunteers with some context before we get to work. During the tour, we'll walk through the farm to give you a sense of what we grow, how we grow it, and why we've chosen these particular crops. We will also discuss our programs and what it means to work to create a just food system.

9:30 am - Farm Work Begins. Volunteers are encouraged to take breaks for water and shade as needed over the course of your visit. A shaded picnic area is available.

11:50 am - End of the day. We'll wrap up, clean up, and have time for group photos. We will plan to end the day at noon.

TASKS

Every volunteer visit is different, and farm tasks vary widely depending on the time of year and the volunteer group size/age. There are many variables that effect our day to day work, and it can be very challenging to predict exactly which tasks you or your group will be working on more than a few days ahead of time. The following list is meant to give you a general idea of typical, seasonal volunteer tasks on the farm. We thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding.

- Spring: Transplant spring and summer crops / Stake and cover newly planted crops / Clean tools / Lay plastic mulch for weed prevention / Spread leaf or hay mulch / Hoe or hand weed / Harvest greens and strawberries.
- Summer: Plant summer and fall crops / Harvest tomatoes, peppers, onions, potatoes, zucchini, beans, garlic, and greens / Lay plastic mulch for weed prevention / Hoe or hand weed / Clean, sort, and pack produce / Clear irrigation and mulch from spring fields.
- Fall: Plant fall and winter crops / Harvest cabbage, carrots, winter squash, greens, peppers, and sweet potatoes / Clean, sort, and pack produce / Barn and storage clean-up and organization.
- Winter: Clear fall fields / Hoop house maintenance / Harvest and plan in the hoop houses / Hoe and hand weed in the hoop houses

NORTHSIDE - 1313 WESTWOOD AVENUE, RICHMOND, VA 23227

Amber Albee, Northside Farm Manager

northside@shalomfarms.org

(804) 921-3192

