



# SHALOM FARMS

## Volunteer Information Sheet

- Our farms depend on volunteers like you to operate. Out of respect for our farm staff, please try your best to be on time for your shift. If you need to cancel or reschedule your volunteer visit, please provide at least 24 hours' notice.
- Shalom Farms is a working farm. We will ask you to participate in a variety of physical activities that are essential to keeping our farm running as it should. We may not be able to predict what tasks you will be doing in advance.
- You can expect to get your clothes, shoes, and hands dirty and wet. With this in mind, please wear appropriate work clothes. We work on uneven, unpaved terrain and sturdy shoes are a must: flip-flops are not permitted on the farm.
- We provide work gloves, sunscreen, and bug spray. Port-o-Johns and handwashing stations are available. We provide fresh drinking water, and ask that you help us reduce plastic waste by remembering your reusable water bottle.
- The use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs is not permitted. Firearms are not permitted.
- Shalom Farms reserves the right to cancel, modify, or postpone any group or individual volunteer visit due to inclement weather. Please monitor the weather in the days leading up to your visit. Should heavy rain, snow, thunder or lightning be called for, we will contact you by phone by 8am on the morning of your visit to postpone or reschedule. Though we strive to work rain or shine, sometimes Mother Nature gets the best of us. Safety first!

**ALL VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS MUST COMPLETE A WAIVER.**

**[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR WAIVER, OR VISIT](#)**

**WWW.SHALOMFARMS.ORG/WAIVER TO COMPLETE YOUR WAIVER ONLINE.**

**POWHATAN FARM - 2676 VENITA ROAD, MIDLOTHIAN, VA 23113**

Vinson Pierce (he/him), Field Lead, (804) 986-8847

volunteer@shalomfarms.org

**NORTHSIDE FARM - 1311 WESTWOOD AVENUE, RICHMOND, VA 23227**

Mia Chand (she/her), Field Lead, (571) 314-2696

Claire Harper (she/her), Program Associate, (804) 833-4719

volunteer@shalomfarms.org



# WHAT TO EXPECT

## when volunteering at Shalom Farms

Our two Certified Naturally Grown farms depend on volunteers to produce healthy food for our community. Thank you so much for donating your time and energy!

### **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 and how we grow it. We will also discuss our programs and how our work contributes to a more 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 their shift. A shaded picnic area is available.

11:45 am - Wrap up, clean up, reflect and group photos. We aim to end the shift as close to noon as possible.

### **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 affect 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, broccoli, cabbage, high tunnel crops and strawberries.
- Summer: Plant summer and fall crops / Harvest tomatoes, peppers, okra, squash, zucchini, beans, garlic, blueberries 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, broccoli, carrots, winter squash, greens, peppers, beets and turnips/ Clean, sort, and pack produce / Barn and storage clean-up and organization.
- Winter: Clear fall fields / high tunnel maintenance / Harvest and plant in the high tunnels/ Hoe and hand weed in the high tunnels

