



The Lower East Side Ecology Center has pioneered community-based models in urban sustainability since 1987. We provide unique e-waste and composting services, environmental stewardship opportunities, and educational programming to all New Yorkers to create an equitable, resilient, and sustainable city.

THE POSITION: Food Justice Education Coordinator

The Ecology Center seeks someone who is deeply motivated to inspire knowledge of urban food systems for people of all ages and skills through food justice education. The Food Justice Education Coordinator will work closely with the Education Manager to develop and teach workshops for youth and older adults, manage our small food justice garden, and conduct outreach activities with the broader Lower East Side community. The Food Justice Education Coordinator must be committed to environmental justice and be comfortable interacting with a wide-range of individuals from a variety of social, ethnic and organizational backgrounds.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and facilitate workshops about food systems and food justice for people of all ages, with a primary focus on older youth (ages 16-24), elders (ages 55+), and intergenerational groups. Topics include but are not limited to growing and cooking food, nutrition, waste, equity, and soil health.
- Support the maintenance of a small food garden including planting, watering, pest management, and harvesting.
- Supervise up to 10 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) interns for 6-weeks.
- Support a community engagement project to collect information about the Lower East Side's food systems, including participation in community engagement training and surveying residents.
- Support the planning of a food justice panel in fall 2025.
- Track participation and programmatic data and write program reports as needed
- Assist with other Ecology Center programs and activities as needed

CORE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- At least 2 years of experience as a non-formal educator
- Strong familiarity with urban agriculture, food systems, and food justice
- Demonstrates a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion
- Ability to work with and effectively communicate with a wide range of audiences including: staff, community and city agency partners, volunteers, youth and adult participants, the general public
- Team player that is self-directed with a can-do attitude, organized, and able to manage multiple tasks
- Enthusiasm and comfortability working outdoors in all kinds of weather conditions
- Complete physically demanding tasks and be comfortable lifting items up to 50 lbs
- Willingness to support other teams and program areas as needed
- Comfortable with Mac OS, Microsoft Office, and Google Drive apps

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE PREFERRED

- At least two years of higher education experience

- Bilingual skills, especially in Spanish, Cantonese, or Mandarin
- Comfortable with being flexible and adapting to change
- Demonstrated mentorship and leadership skills
- A valid driver's license and experience driving in NYC preferred

SCHEDULE

This is a seasonal position and the number of hours will vary by season. The Food Justice Education Coordinator will begin in early April 2025 and the role will conclude in mid November 2025.

- Spring (April - June): 15-20 hours per week, 2-3 days per week
- Summer (July - August): 35 hours per week, Monday - Friday
- Fall (September - November): 15-20 hours per week, 2-3 days per week
- This role may require occasional evenings and weekends

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

This is a part-time, seasonal position. The rate for the position is \$23-\$25/hour based on experience. The Ecology Center offers paid holidays, 25 hours of safe/sick time off, and 25 hours of personal time off.

HOW TO APPLY

Qualified candidates should submit a resume and 1-page cover letter that addresses why you're interested in the position, how your experiences relate to the job responsibilities, and why you would like to work for the Ecology Center.

Application materials should be combined into a single pdf file and sent to info@lesecologycenter.org with "Food Justice Education Coordinator - YOUR NAME" in the subject line.

Deadline to apply: February 14, 2025

No phone calls please.

The Lower East Side Ecology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.