

Permaculture Center at Claymont



Location: Outside of Charles Town, WV

Size: 340 acres

Website: society.claymont.org

[Apply for position here](#)

Overview: Claymont Society for Continuous Education is an educational non-profit founded in the 1970s as a school that taught the philosophy of the Georgian mystic Gurdjieff, and in particular his student John G. Bennett, who purchased the property himself. The focus of the school during the 1970s and 1980s was on increasing the capacity for people to apply spirituality and inner awareness work in everyday life, to build a more conscious and interdependent society. Before Claymont's time, the land was owned and maintained by the Washington family, and a historic mansion from the Washington estate is still housed on the property. Now, Claymont primarily functions as a retreat center that groups rent out to offer spiritual and educational programming, mainly on the weekends. There is a 12-acre organic farm on the land, as well as a beautiful forest, rolling fields, and some water features. A permaculture center is being launched to steward the land and offer additional educational programming about intentional design and earth care, building off of the legacy that started over 40 years ago.

Work-Stay Opening: Permaculture Garden Manager

Position Length: 6 to 9 months, beginning in February or March of 2019 (option to extend residency upon evaluation)

Description:

We are looking for one person to join the permaculture initiative taking place at Claymont by designing and bringing to production a permaculture Garden, that reflects permaculture principles and the goals of community members and stakeholders who stand to be impacted by the Garden. This person would have the support of additional volunteers, but would be responsible for the construction and



maintenance of the Garden, as well as the harvesting and transportation of the produce.

Additional Responsibilities:

- + Join community resident weekly gatherings (Monday night community dinner + clean, Tuesday night meditation)
- + Join permaculture committee meetings and check-ins
- + Support and contribute to other ongoing projects (such as: new compost system, mapping of plants growing on the land, design of a seed bank, launching a CSA)

Preferred Characteristics:

- Experience managing a garden or agricultural plot
- Well-versed in and familiar with permaculture principles and application
- Able to work collaboratively: flexible, mature, able to work through conflict, solid communication skills, and comfortable with a wide range of personalities and people
- Suited to work in a startup environment and be adaptive
- Maintains a spiritual or contemplative practice and interested in spiritual philosophy

Living Arrangements & Compensation:

You will be provided with a single room with a bed, shelves, an air conditioning unit, WiFi, and utilities, with access to shared bathrooms, showers, and a kitchen. You will receive basic pay to cover food and other living expenses, with the chance for you to increase compensation during the growing season.

Work Hours:

The total number of hours per week that you work can be flexible to accommodate the option of working part-time in addition to your role as the permaculture garden manager, whether it be at a remote job or through selling goods grown in the Garden.

Application Process:

To apply for this position, please fill out and submit [this online form](#). **Questions?** Reach out to emilychiapp@gmail.com.

