



## WHY VOLUNTEER?

Each day at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, an inspiring celebration of nature comes together in our mission of educating people about plants, gardens and the environment. The Gardens, Alabama's largest living museum, is filled with abundant plant life, graceful walking paths, architecture, artwork and sculpture throughout 67+ acres.

When you volunteer at The Gardens, you are giving something back to your community and helping us to fulfill our mission. As a volunteer, you also reap many benefits, enhancing your personal growth. Volunteering doesn't have to be a one-time experience. For many, it's lifelong fulfillment!

Benefits include:

- Increased social awareness
- Learning through service/developing new skills
- Enjoying better health
- Gaining self-confidence
- Discovering your strengths/talents
- Building a sense of independence
- Meeting new people/making new friends
- Developing new skills
- Making a difference!

## WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?



We provide volunteer training with guidance to help you utilize and increase your volunteer experience. You'll have fun and meet other people who love plants, people, education and the environment.



**GREENHOUSE & GARDEN ASSISTANT** – Birmingham Botanical Gardens has more than 25 specialty gardens and woodland areas, representing the best of Alabama's horticultural wonders. Assist in propagating plants for our plant sales or assist staff in maintaining select gardens.

**DOCENT** – Work as a docent, giving weekday tours of The Gardens for visiting groups from around the neighborhood, state and nation.

**EDUCATION PROGRAMS** – Volunteer as an education docent and lead one of our Discovery Field Trips for elementary age school children or assist an Advanced Placement Biology lab. Teen volunteers are encouraged to assist our Children's Summer Workshop Instructors.



**DISCOVERY CART ASSISTANT** – Facilitate educational activities for families in The Gardens utilizing the Discovery Cart.



**LIBRARY ASSISTANT** – Help patrons access library resources and assist at the circulation desk.

**HORTICULTURAL THERAPY** – Assist the instructor, guiding clients through propagating and maintaining their plants, creating flower crafts and visiting other areas of The Gardens as a means of reaching social, emotional, cognitive or physical therapy goals.

**GARDEN GREETER/TRAM DRIVER** – Provide visitors with information on activities and facilities at The Gardens; help visitors see all our gardens by driving the Garden Tram.

**OFFICE ASSISTANT** – Assist with a variety of office tasks including copying, filing, data entry and class registrations.



**SPECIAL EVENTS** – Assist in an event and help increase funding while raising public awareness of the programs and activities of The Gardens. Volunteer at one of our many great events! Spring & Fall Plant Sale, Earth Day at The Gardens, Family Fun Day, Antiques at The Gardens and HollyDay Magic are just a few of the great events that adult and teen volunteers can get involved.

## WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

Please describe your work and volunteer experiences that you feel would be helpful in volunteering at The Gardens. (Use additional sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your: \_\_\_\_\_

Computer skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Horticultural experience & affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Other pertinent skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Please state why you have chosen to apply for a volunteer position at The Gardens (Use additional sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about this volunteer program? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list what days and times you are available to volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the volunteer coordinator office, Email: [volunteers@bbgardens.org](mailto:volunteers@bbgardens.org) Or mail: 2612 Lane Park Road, Birmingham, AL 35223. Fax 205.414.3966, Phone 205.414.3962 or [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)



# VOLUNTEER!

## ADULT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Please complete the following application and submit to the volunteer office if you would like to be contacted about volunteering.

Please select the program for which you are applying:

- Ongoing Active Volunteer Program.  
Please specify which volunteer opportunity interests you:
  - Garden Docent/Weekdays
  - Education Docent, K-Gr6/Weekdays
  - Greenhouse & Garden/Weekdays
  - Office Assistant/Weekdays
  - Library/All Week
  - Family Discovery Cart/Sunday PM
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Special Event Volunteer.  
Please specify which volunteer opportunity interests you:
  - Plant Sales
  - Gardening Events
  - Family Events
  - Social Events
  - \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens?  
 Yes    No



## WHO VOLUNTEERS?

Adults and teens, men and women, professionals and retirees, plant experts and plant novices, people who like being outdoors and people who like working around different types of people can all be found volunteering at The Gardens.



## WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER?

A successful volunteer is flexible, friendly and willing to share skills in a specific area. A successful volunteer comes to learn, to try new things and to enjoy our natural and cultural resources. A successful volunteer understands and believes in our mission of educating people about plants and the environment. Volunteers are expected to abide by all policies and rules, just as employees do.



## BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

Open daily, sunrise to sunset. 365 days a year.  
Admission is free.

The Garden Center is open daily 8-5 p.m.  
and most weekends.

The Garden Center is closed on city holidays.

## OUR MISSION

Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens promotes public knowledge of plants, gardens and the environment; and receives, raises and administers resources for these purposes.



For more information on The Gardens' volunteer program:

Phone: 205.414.3962.

Email: [volunteers@bbgardens.org](mailto:volunteers@bbgardens.org)

Visit our website: [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)

# VOLUNTEER!

GET INVOLVED &  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS  
 2612 Lane Park Road Birmingham, AL 35223  
 205.414.3950 [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org)