



PHILADELPHIA ORCHARD PROJECT

BECOME A LEAD ORCHARD VOLUNTEER

Join us in caring for beautiful, bountiful community orchards!

Lead Orchard Volunteers (LOVs) commit to one year of volunteering on a monthly basis at a community orchard in their neighborhood. LOVs work alongside Philadelphia Orchard Project staff to provide monthly maintenance at a specific community orchard, building skills in orchard care, horticulture, and volunteer coordination. The best part for most LOVs is building connections with the community, land, and food system.

- **Time commitment:** Total of 4-6 hours/month on average. Includes 9 monthly orchard work days/year (March through November 2023 + winter pruning day) and quarterly workshops, trainings, or meetings.
- **Location:** Monthly work days completed at designated POP orchard site; quarterly workshops/trainings virtually or at orchard sites across the city; monthly reporting and communications can be completed from home or anywhere.
- **Reimbursement:** On a quarterly basis (once per season, for a maximum of three seasons per year), Lead Orchard Volunteers may receive a payment of \$60 for every work day completed. Funding is available based on self-identified need. *This is a travel/meal reimbursement and does not qualify as employment.*

Position Expectations

- Availability must match the scheduling needs of the specific community orchard partner; some sites hold work days on weekdays, others on weekends;
- Help co-lead a monthly work day, including supervising volunteers in assigned orchard tasks; arrive at least 30 minutes in advance and help with clean up at the end;
- Send a brief orchard work day summary to POP staff within a week of the event;
- Communicate with POP staff and community partners about any challenges

Preferred Qualifications

- Ability to engage in a positive, professional manner with diverse populations, including project participants, partners, volunteers, and the general public;
- Able to work collaboratively;
- Reliable means of transportation or comfort with taking public transportation to designated orchard partner site;
- Comfort with hand tools and willingness to work outside in most weather conditions
- Knowledge or interest in horticulture, urban agriculture, permaculture and/or food justice;

- Experience managing volunteers and/or leading groups