

# HOUSTON ARBORETUM & NATURE CENTER

## Native Landscape Technician Job Description

**Reports To:** Conservation Director

**Employment Status:** Contract, up to 40 hours per week

**Salary:** \$18 per hour

### About the Arboretum

Houston Arboretum & Nature Center is a nonprofit organization whose mission is *to provide education about the natural environment to people of all ages, and to protect and enhance the Arboretum as a haven and sanctuary for native plants and animals*. Located on the western edge of Memorial Park, this 155-acre urban nature sanctuary encourages visitors to slow down and enjoy the natural world. One of the first nature education facilities for children in the state of Texas, the Arboretum proudly welcomes over 11,000 school children and 625,000 visitors annually.

Please visit our website for further information on the history, people, and programs of the Arboretum.

<http://www.houstonarboretum.org/>

### Job Description

The Houston Arboretum & Nature Center is seeking a part-time Native Landscape Technician to work with conservation staff and volunteers to develop, maintain and enhance ecologically landscaped garden beds and assist with the native plant grow-out program. This is a contract hourly position, schedule of Monday-Friday and fourth Saturday of each month, with occasional opportunity to work additional hours during staff-wide Arboretum events throughout the year.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist with ecological landscaping, including the development of aesthetic designs and layouts of garden areas, installing native plants to expand or enhance existing gardens, soil preparation, identifying and removing invasive plants, and applying water, mulch, compost, fertilizer or herbicide as needed.
- Assist with native plant nursery management, involving grow-out of plants from seed or cuttings for use in the grounds or biannual Plant Sale.
- Assist in maintenance of trails, natural resource management, or other site duties as needed.
- Collaborate with the Conservation Director and the Conservation staff to identify and develop ecological and gardening projects appropriate for volunteer groups and staff.
- Responsible for the safety and security of volunteers under his/her supervision.
- Must be able to lift up to 30 pounds and be able to stand and walk for hours at a time.

### Education and Experience

- Bachelor's degree (or equivalent experience) in Horticulture, Botany, or Plant Science is preferred.
- Working knowledge of plants native to the Gulf Coast Texas Prairie, Pineywoods, or Post Oak Savanna ecoregions.
- Ability to work effectively with others in order to build mutual respect.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Basic knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- The ability to lift to 25 pounds, move safely over uneven terrain, climb stairs and work frequently outdoors year-round under a variety of weather conditions.

**Interested candidates should send the following documents to Stephen Benigno, [sbenigno@houstonarboretum.org](mailto:sbenigno@houstonarboretum.org):**

- A one page resume with work history, education, and any other relevant information
- A one page cover letter explaining why you are interested in and qualified for this opportunity

**Thank you for your interest!**