



## **HORTICULTURE EDUCATOR** **University of Illinois Extension**

### **Unit 1 serving Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties in Northwestern Illinois**

The Extension Educator serves as a regular, full time, 12 month academic professional with primary responsibility for the development, delivery, and evaluation of educational programs supporting the mission of the University of Illinois Extension. Programmatic objectives of Extension Educators will be consistent with national and statewide initiatives considered of significant importance to residents of the state of Illinois.

The Horticulture Educator concentrates on the development and delivery of high impact and relevant educational programs and materials, and is preferred in one or more of following areas: 1) production and protection of plants in urban and suburban ornamental landscapes, 2) fruit and vegetable production and protection, including organic and IPM plant protection systems, 3) native landscaping, pollinator habitats, landscape design, or ornamental horticulture and 4) understanding of urban and rural issues and populations. Strong leadership and delivery of programs will be provided to volunteers within the Master Gardener Program and Master Naturalist Program.

Extension Educators will be expected to deliver research-based educational programs and to work within the unit with support from Extension Program Coordinators in each county. Extensive support for local programming is in place and the Educator will join five other Educators in the unit, providing opportunities for interdisciplinary programming and collaboration on projects. Networking in the communities with public gardens, schools and community organizations will provide opportunities to contribute to projects and local efforts. On a state level, collaboration with other Horticulture Educators and campus based faculty on programming will happen regularly. Extension Educators sometimes deliver educational programs for other Extension Units, such as county based Garden Days and other large events.

One full time position is available.

**Location:** Unit 1 – Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties

(Position will be housed in Stephenson County – Freeport, IL or Jo Daviess County – Galena, IL)

*The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer that recruits and hires qualified candidates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or veteran status. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EO>.*

*This is a security-sensitive position. Comprehensive background checks, including but not limited to a criminal conviction information check, a CANTS check, and a review of the Registered Sex Offender list, will be conducted.*

**University of Illinois Extension**

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

[go.illinois.edu/jsw](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw)

University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating.  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.



### Other Information

- Comply with all University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity policies and guidelines in all aspects of Extension work; assists Unit staff with data collection for Affirmative Action, Gender, and Targeted reports.
- Local, regional and (limited) statewide travel required; personal transportation required.
- To perform the functions of this position, the employee will be required to perform work both within an office and outside in the communities that are served, and must have the capability to travel from one location to the other in a timely fashion. Employee is responsible for securing personal transportation. A valid driver's license is preferred. Some work will be required during evenings and/or weekends. When working, the employee may be exposed to a variety of environmental factors to include, but not limited to, hot or cold weather, exposure to noise and allergens, and uneven ground. In performing the functions of this position, the employee may be subjected to various mental and physical demands as well to include, but not limited to, independently traveling to and performing work at different locations, lifting and moving items that may occasionally weigh up to forty (40) pounds and frequently weigh up to twenty (20) pounds, and twisting, pushing and pulling movements. More detailed information regarding the functions of this position (including the physical, mental and environmental requirements of the position) may be obtained from Human Resources for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) by contacting [hr@aces.illinois.edu](mailto:hr@aces.illinois.edu).

### **Qualifications**

#### **Required:**

- Master's degree related to subject matter emphasis from an accredited institution of higher education. Examples of relevant majors could include, but are not limited to, horticulture, ornamental horticulture, urban agriculture, entomology, plant pathology, or weed science. Candidates with a Master's degree in progress may be considered for interviews, but degree must be completed by hire date.
- Knowledge and experience in program planning, promotion, and resource development.

#### **Preferred:**

- Previous work experiences in horticulture.
- Informal and formal teaching experiences.

#### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Evidence of success in working with diverse cultural groups. Strong written and oral communication skills. Understanding of urban issues and populations. Ability to organize, manage, and conduct educational activities for adult audiences. Demonstrated ability to build and maintain diverse networks.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

*Serving Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties*  
Jo Daviess County • 204 N. Vine St., Elizabeth IL 61028 • 815-858-2273  
Stephenson County • 2998 W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport, IL 61032 • 815-235-4125  
Winnebago County • 1040 N. Second St., Rockford, IL 611070 • 815-986-4357

### **Additional Information**

This position is a full-time, benefits-eligible, non-tenure academic professional position appointed on a 12-month service basis. The expected start date is as soon as possible after the closing date. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Generous vacation and sick leave. State Universities Retirement System. Group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

**For further information about the position please contact Deb Koch, Office Support Specialist in Unit 1 at [dlkoch@illinois.edu](mailto:dlkoch@illinois.edu) or 815-235-1869.**

### **Application Procedure**

To apply, go to <https://go.illinois.edu/160410>. Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references. Resume dates must be in month/year format and employment history, at a minimum, should include all work dating back to the completion of your undergraduate degree. Positions that were less than full-time/100% must be noted as being part-time. Transcripts may be requested at a later date. To receive full consideration, all requested application materials must be submitted via the online system by the close date of *March 18, 2022*.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. Convictions are not a bar to employment. As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System [uses E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#).

The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit [Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment](#). The University of Illinois must also comply with applicable federal export control laws and regulations and, as such, reserves the right to employ restricted party screening procedures for applicants.

University of Illinois faculty, staff and students are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If you are not able to receive the vaccine for medical or religious reasons, you may seek approval for an exemption in accordance with applicable University processes.

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