



EATinG 2012—Student Gardener Position Description

Application DEADLINE : March 2nd.

Program Description

Calypso's EATinG (Engaging Alaskan Teens in Gardening) program educates and empowers Student Gardeners to grow food for themselves and the community.

Job Description

As a Student Gardener, you will be working with a team of other teens to maintain the school garden at your assigned site. Each EATinG group will tend their garden with help from a School Garden Supervisor. Our supervisors are striving to create teams of Student Gardeners of mixed ages and made up of at least 70% of students associated with the school where the garden is located.

Specific Duties

- Preparing beds
- Planting
- Weeding
- Harvesting
- Working at a farm stand and/or organizing CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) pick-up
- Communicating with customers and/or shareholders
- Writing weekly garden notes for customers
- Creating nutritional information handouts
- Assisting with teaching gardening workshops for the community

Qualifications

- 12-18 years old
- Excited about working in a garden
- Responsible, reliable, and hard-working
- Not afraid to get dirty
- Willing to learn new skills
- Able to work well independently as well as with other people
- No farm or garden experience is necessary

Schedule

- 12 hours per week: Monday-Thursday 3-6 pm
- Session 1: May 29th—June 22nd
- Session 2: June 25th—July 20th
- Session 3: July 23rd—Aug 17th
- Student Gardener Orientation May 25th 3-7pm
- Parent Orientation May 25th 6-7pm
- A longer period as a Student Gardener may be possible based on space available in the program

Locations

- Hunter Elementary
- Randy Smith Middle
- Woodriver Elementary

*Students are responsible for their own transportation

Compensation

- Student CSA Share for each week in the garden—valued at approximately \$30 week
- Fresh garden vegetables as snacks and for cooking lessons during the EATinG Program

How to Apply

- Please submit the attached application to your front office (if applications are being taken there OR mail it to Calypso at the address listed below.
- Applications are due (or postmarked) by March 2nd!
- Interviews will begin after the application deadline.
- You will be notified of selection by mid April.

Calypso Farm and Ecology Center

PO Box 106 • Ester, Alaska 99725
 907-451-0691 (phone) • 907-451-0697 (fax)
 Visit our website: www.calypsofarm.org

E A T inG 2012—Information for Parents / Guardians

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the EATinG program!
Your child has expressed interest in working as a Student Gardener this summer and we appreciate your support in the process.

What is the Schoolyard Garden Initiative?

The Schoolyard Garden Initiative (SGI) was created in 2003 in response to the need for hands-on educational opportunities in the schools, a garden connection for kids, and locally grown food for the community.

The Schoolyard Garden Initiative is now a network of school gardens in Fairbanks, functioning as experiential learning environments during the school year and as food production gardens - maintained by the teenagers involved in Calypso's Employing Alaskan Teens in Gardening (EATinG) program during the summer months. There are currently seven schools involved, five with active EATinG crews.



What is the E A T inG Program?

The Engaging Alaskan Teens in Gardening (EATinG) is Calypso's solution to summer maintenance of school gardens. Teams of young people work through the summer to plant, tend, harvest and nurture school gardens in Fairbanks. Student Gardeners grow in ways that reach beyond gardening to include communication, personal responsibility and community awareness.

- **Dates:** May 29th-August 17th. Student Gardeners will have the opportunity to volunteer one day at the Fair.
- **Location:** The EATinG Program will operate at three sites this year—1) Hunter Elementary, 2) Woodriver Elementary and 3) Randy Smith Middle.
- **Minimum Commitment:** A one month commitment (16 EATinG work days) is requested.
- **Hours:** Monday-Thursday 3-6pm
- **Orientation:** May 25th—Student Gardener Orientation is from 3-7pm, Parent Orientation is from 6-7pm. All Student Gardeners and parents must attend!

_____ I will be available to attend the EATinG Program Orientation on May 25th, from 6-7 p.m.

- **Compensation:** Student CSA share, which is a weekly supply of vegetables valued at \$30/week. Students will also receive produce for snacks and cooking lessons during the EATinG program.

Help Support the E A T inG !

The Schoolyard Garden Initiative and the EATinG program are funded in large part by contributions from individuals. (Vegetable sales through the summer cover only about 10% of the program costs). If you are able to—please consider making a charitable contribution to keep the program running. A donation of \$360 covers the cost for one Student Gardener! If you are able to contribute at any level, please send a check or call in with a credit card number to make your contribution! All donations are tax deductible. Thanks so much!

Contact Calypso to learn more about the Schoolyard Garden Initiative and the EATinG Program!

Call or email Sarah at 451-0691 or calypsosgi@gmail.com



For Calypso Use Only:

Name: _____

School Garden: _____

Session: 1 2 3

EATinG 2012—Student Gardener Application

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To apply to become a Student Gardener through the EATinG program, please fill out the following. Remember to write or print clearly! Thanks! Applications should be turned into the School Office (if there is an envelope there—check with the office staff to see if Calypso is collecting applications at your school) or they can be mailed to PO Box 106, Ester, AK 99725. **All applications are due (or postmarked) by Friday, March 2nd.**



Your Name (First and Last):

Current School and Teacher (or homeroom teacher):

Age and Current Grade Level:

Elementary School Attended:

Mailing Address:

Phone (please list the number that is best to reach you):

Note! – Application continues on back →

EATinG 2012—Student Gardener Application (Page 2 of 4)

Have you participated in the EATinG program before? If yes, which year(s) and at which school garden?

Please circle the school garden that you would like to work in and explain why.

Hunter

Woodriver

Randy Smith

Which Session would you like to work? (check all possibilities) We can make special arrangements if you won't be available for a single session:

_____ **Session 1**— May 29th-June 2nd

_____ **Session 2**—June 25th—July 20th

_____ **Session 3**—July 23rd—August 17th

Are you available for EATinG Program Orientation on May 25th, from 3-6 for teens and 6-7 for parents? If not, your supervisor will be in contact about an alternative orientation.

_____ **Yes**, I will attend Orientation

_____ **No**, I will not attend Orientation

A minimum commitment of one month (16 EATinG days) is requested. A longer period of employment is possible based on space available in the program.

Note! – Application continues on next page →

E A T inG 2012 S tudent G ardener A pplication (Page 3 of 4)

Please answer the following questions:

Why would you like to work as a Student Gardener this summer?



Describe any work or volunteer experiences that you have had in the past.

Please give an example of a situation that shows that you are responsible and dependable.

If you could be any vegetable, which one would you be and why?

Note! – Application continues on back →

EATinG 2012—Student Gardener Application (Page 4 of 4)

Please list the names and phone numbers of two people who could provide a reference for you. (These should be people who know you and can recommend you for the Student Gardener position.)

For example – teachers, previous employers, friends, family, etc.

1. Name: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

2. Name: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Your Parent or Guardian needs to fill out the following:

Parent / Guardian—Information and Signature (Required)

Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address if different from applicants':

I have read the EATinG 2012 Student Gardener Position Description and the Information for Parents / Guardians and acknowledge that my son/daughter may be considered for participation in the EATinG program during the Summer 2012 season.

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for applying!
We'll be in touch soon to set up an interview.