



Hudson Valley Regenerator Program
2022 Summer Growing Season through the 2023 Summer Growing Season
(June 2022 - August 2023)

Regeneration can be defined as “the process of renewal, restoration, or growth that makes life possible against the forces that cause disturbance or damage.” The ECP is currently seeking committed, visionary, diverse, and community-loving individuals to help us add to our team of *Regenerators*. Together, we will work to demonstrate new ways to build just, healthy, and sovereign communities of joyful abundance.

Background

The [Ecological Citizen’s Project, Inc.](#) (ECP) is a non-profit organization based in Garrison, NY, that seeks to develop citizen-led campaigns to build a more just, healthy, democratic, and regenerative way of life. We believe that people working together at the local level can show that it is possible to make progress on tackling our biggest social problems.

The ECP’s past work has helped move 40,000 Hudson Valley homes to 100% renewable energy, developed a Community Congress model that gives regular people the power to define their own community’s priorities, and created a road-map for local communities to build the movement towards carbon neutrality.

In 2020, we launched our Regenerative Communities (RC) program and to date have trained 12 people, placing 8 of them on land in the Hudson Valley to steward a regenerative farm that is dedicated to food production and community engagement (with 2 others starting their own endeavors out of state). Our RC program aims to use the establishment of these community farms in the Hudson Valley as a launching pad to regenerate communities by increasing food security of the surrounding community; increasing residents’ economic security and wealth through community-owned renewable energy; promoting housing and land affordability; and growing civic power.

Regenerator program details

The ECP has two Regenerator positions available for the 2022 summer growing season through the 2023 summer growing season (15 months). We are looking for applicants willing to commit to the full 2022 summer growing season (2-3 days per week, June 1 through August 31, 2022) in the form of an apprenticeship as well as a subsequent year-long placement (September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023) in developing the RC program at a Hudson Valley community farm site following successful completion of the summer apprenticeship program.

Regenerator apprentice training program:

The summer apprenticeship will take place in Garrison, NY, sharing land with [Longhaul Farm](#), where the family farmers practice regenerative living and agriculture, including running a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program for 50 neighborhood families; managing a diversified, free-range livestock program including pigs, chickens and turkeys; and serving as a community hub. The year-long placement will take place at established community farm sites in Peekskill, NY ([Peekskill Regeneration Farm](#)) and Newburgh, NY ([The Sanctuary Healing Farm and Gardens](#)).

Participants will learn *regenerative farming skills* like building soil health, intensive growing practices, garden maintenance and harvesting, and animal husbandry; *sustainable life skills* like cooking, preserving, carpentry and budgeting; and *community leadership skills* like analysis of local social problems, community organizing, and how policy change is made at the local level. Apprentices will also receive up to 60 paid training hours at [Glynwood Farm](#), located in Cold Spring just 15 minutes north of Longhaul Farm, and at other Hudson Valley farms through the [Mid-Hudson CRAFT program](#).

Expectations of Regenerator apprentices: While prior farming experience is not required, applicants should be enthusiastic about participating in all farm activities. This apprenticeship will require physical labor, working outdoors, working in the sun and, if raining, the rain. Apprentices must be able to lift 50 pounds, as well as work with their hands and at the soil-level (no tractors here!). Apprentices should be able to work both independently and as part of a small team. They should be eager to learn, read, discuss and attend both on-farm discussions and off-site local training sessions. They should be seeking opportunities to be civically involved and actively want to be part of a community, organizing to achieve meaningful gains in food, social, economic and ecological justice. Apprentices should be able to commit to the full summer apprenticeship (2-3 days per week, June through August 2022), as well as the year of service on the community farm (September 2022 through August 2023) for a total of 15 months being a part of the RC project.

Regenerator apprentice compensation: Apprentices will be paid \$22 per hour for 2-3 days per week over the apprenticeship season. Apprentices will be part-time employees of the ECP.

Transportation, meals, housing: Longhaul Farm is a 10 minute drive from two MetroNorth train stations (Peekskill, Garrison) and we would be able to pick-up and drop-off apprentices on a regular schedule. We plan to share lunches together on workdays and apprentices are encouraged to bring home some of the garden bounty. For those who need housing, apprentice housing may be available on-site.

After the apprenticeship: A year of self-directed service on a community farm: Following completion of the Longhaul Farm summer apprenticeship component, the ECP will place Regenerators on community farm sites in the Hudson Valley to apply their skills in regenerative farming and living, community building, and civic empowerment during a self-directed year of community service.

In addition to the apprentice expectations detailed above, which will carry over into the work during the year of service, Regenerator farmers will be expected to donate produce grown to food insecure neighbors; feel comfortable conducting community outreach and collaborating with community partners;

establishing goals and deliverables; working independently toward goals and deliverables; taking on the role of community leader; establishing regular communication with the ECP and community stakeholders; applying the farming skills learned during the apprenticeship immediately and continuously to their community space; committing to ongoing learning and personal development; and being accountable to the community they are serving.

Regenerators are expected to steward their farm site for a full year: maintaining the farm site through the fall into the end of the growing season (Sept 1 through November) for approximately 30 hours/week; planning farm activities and civic/social programming through the winter months (December through March) for approximately 10-15 hours/week; managing the farm and civic/social space through the spring and summer months (April through August) for approximately 30 hours/week. During this year of service, Regenerators will continue to work closely with ECP personnel and be connected to the network of former Regenerators.

Regenerator farmer compensation: The ECP will work to secure funding to provide Regenerators a living-wage stipend of approximately \$30,000 for year-long part-time work (\$22-\$25 per hour) to manage the community farm and local food donations, help develop a community-owned renewable energy project, and engage their community in self-directed civic and social programming. Two of these farm sites have been secured for 2022-2023 and are located in Newburgh and Peekskill.

About the ECP farmers

Apprentices would work closely with Jason Angell and Jocelyn Apicello, the two founders of the Ecological Citizen's Project, Inc. and the farmers at Longhaul Farm, LLC. Here's a bit more about us:

Jason Angell is currently the Executive Director of the Ecological Citizen's Project, teaches Sociology at Bronx Community College, and is a farmer at Longhaul Farm. He has worked to make change in the past as the Director of the Center for Working Families (affiliated with the Working Families party), by advising political candidates, community organizing in Philadelphia, and building coalitions of communities of color in Portland, Or. Jason is currently serving on the Town of Philipstown Board. Jason earned an M.P.A. from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and loves to cook, write, be a part of nature, and work with others to envision and build a better world.

Jocelyn Apicello is currently the Program Director of the Ecological Citizen's Project and is a farmer at Longhaul Farm. She has been teaching public health courses with William Paterson University and the Bard Prison Initiative (BPI) since 2012 and currently is the Faculty Advisor for BPI's Urban Farming & Sustainability program. She oversees gardening activities at several correctional facilities, incorporating academic and hands-on learning in the areas of regenerative agriculture, climate justice and land stewardship. Jocelyn earned her DrPH at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health, writing about gentrification in New York City and its influence on the habitats of New Yorkers. She is committed to helping others learn to love nature, value all forms of life, and rise up as community leaders.

How to apply

We encourage any interested applicants to reach out to us directly and would welcome interested applicants to schedule a call or videoconference, visit us, or set-up a meeting with us closer to your home. For those who would like to apply, please complete [this online application form](#), which will ask you to provide contact information and submit your current resume; a letter of recommendation from a past co-worker, friend, or community member; and a letter of interest or video of yourself responding to the following questions: *Why do you want to be a Regenerator? How do you engage with your community?* Finalists for these two positions will be asked to work on the farm with the farmers for a minimum of one workday as part of the interview process.

We are an equal opportunity employer committed to recruiting apprentices that represent diverse communities in the Hudson Valley. We are particularly recruiting from Newburgh and Peekskill, NY, but encourage all applicants to apply. Please direct all questions and application materials to:

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