Spring Valley Student Farm
Summer Resident Cooperative Housing Application
(Non-Paid)
Summer 2019

Please review the information below before completing the application questions.

Information about Spring Valley Student Farm community

Spring Valley Student Farm Mission:

To foster meaningful student learning, engagement, collaboration and camaraderie around environmental, social and economic issues relating to the food system.

Spring Valley Student Farm Community Overview:

SVSF provides students the opportunity to live and work together in a vibrant community focused on the common goal of healthy local food production. While living and working at the farm students gain practical knowledge and skills through experiential learning. SVSF is an on-campus farm growing produce, herbs and flowers using organic methods. This on-campus produce, grown for exclusive use by UConn Dining Services, models a closed loop food system.

Through the diversity of the working group, there are many opportunities to learn about sustainable living from each other and from the land. As stewards and ambassadors of the farm the student farmers support SVSF as an educational destination where students, faculty, staff, and Storrs-Mansfield community members may come together to learn about the connections between land, food, and people.

Spring Valley Student Farm exists as a collaborative venture between Department of Dining Services, Residential Life, First Year Programs and Learning Communities - EcoHouse, the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources, and numerous other departments.

Additional Information:

Summer residence at SVSF is open to any UConn undergraduate student currently enrolled for summer 2019 classes or enrolled for the fall 2019 semester. SVSF is located 4.5 miles off campus at 104 and 86 Spring Manor Road in Mansfield, Connecticut off Route 32 just north of the intersection with Route 44. Students living at SVSF volunteer 10 hours per week of labor to qualify for a significantly discounted room rental rate. With completion of 10 hours of volunteer time per week, SVSF residents pay $68/week in rent.

All room fees are payable based on deadlines set for traditional university housing. Payment in full must occur prior to the summer period during which the student will be residing at the farm. This room fee includes all utilities including electricity, water, trash, cable, and wireless
internet. The monthly fee does not include a meal plan. In exchange for this discounted living arrangement, all students selected to live at SVSF must contribute 10 hours a week toward running the farm during the summer.

There is no University transportation provided between the farm and the main Storrs campus. The farm is located about one mile from the UConn bus stop at Depot Campus. Those students interested in additional responsibilities may apply for a paid summer student farmer position or other student employment positions through Dining Services. Independent study credits are also possible with a sponsoring faculty member in the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources. You will find further information about SVSF at http://dining.uconn.edu/spring-valley-farm/. You may also email Julia.cartabiano@uconn.edu or phone 860-508-7706 with questions.

Please provide brief answers to the following questions.

1) Provide contact information including name, home address, local phone number, email address and Peoplesoft number.

2) Tell us a little bit about yourself. Who are you? (major, semester standing, interests, hobbies, goals, etc.)

3) Why are you interested in living at Spring Valley Student Farm?

4) What does sustainability mean to you? What sustains you?

5) SVSF residents will be responsible for tending to the farm including but not limited to planting, harvesting and processing produce, composting, leading tours, etc. Please describe your experience gardening or working on a farm.

6) How would you be an active member and contributor at Spring Valley Student Farm? How would you further the goals of the community?

7) Do you have any experience living in a communal space? What are your assets as a house/roommate? What qualities might make you difficult to live with? What does healthy communication mean to you?

8) What other relevant experience do you have that would make you an ideal candidate for Spring Valley Student Farm? (course work, honors, awards, scholarships, co-curricular activities, volunteer or service work, work experience, living experiences, study abroad, etc.)

9) Please use this space if you feel there is anything missing from your application that you would like the current farmers to know.

Please return completed application to Julia.cartabiano@uconn.edu

Monday, March 25, 2019