

# THE CIDER FARM

## The Cider Farm – Fall Organic Orchard Worker

### ABOUT THE CIDER FARM

- We are an expanding, organically managed apple orchard growing specialty apples to make The Cider Farm apple brandy and ciders. Neither product is made on-farm, but our cider is made at our Cidery and Tasting Room in Madison.
- We have been grafting and purchasing trees. About 15,000 trees are in the orchard and 1200 are in the tree nursery. An additional 10,000 trees on nine acres are under consideration.
- We are reclaiming over 60 ac of timberland from invasive species.
- We are establishing 35-acres of prairie, windbreaks, and pollinator habitat adjacent to orchard blocks.
- Our farm hosts research and educational initiatives.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to appropriately balance speed and quality of work.
- Strong verbal communication skills and ability to follow directions, particularly regarding safety.
- The work is very physical and outdoors. You must be able to frequently lift 30 to 50 lbs.; to bend and squat for work at the tree base; to run brushcutters.
- Experience in horticultural production is desired, while previous orchard work is a plus. Mechanical skills are highly desired. Experience running chain saws tractors and/or skid steers is a plus.

### DUTIES

The work is diverse and changes from week to week, if not day to day. Work includes, but is not limited to:

- Repair, stabilize and weed deer fencing.
- Dig and plant trees.
- Set stakes or trellising. Attach trees to stakes or trellising.
- Apply tree guards to base of each tree for winter protection.
- Hand weed. Operate a weed-wacker/brush cutter cautiously around trees, fencing, buildings and utilities.
- Sow cover crop or prairie seed.
- Assist with prairie burns.
- Monitor for disease and insect pests. Remove insect pests.
- Harvest apples keeping records of all harvest-related information.
- Help with, if not manage, apple pressings keeping track of varieties and amounts pressed.
- Spray garlic mustard in late fall with herbicide in woodlands.
- Clean small and large equipment.
- Operate a skid steer, riding mower, and tractor for diverse tasks throughout the year.

### DATES AND TIMES OF WORK

- September through November, weather permitting, Monday through Friday. A few Sundays if needed for apple pressing. Possible employment for the growing season in 2021.