

4.29.21

My name is Ryan Hennessy and I am the Farm Manager at Parker Village. For the next month or so we're open to have volunteer time three days a week, on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, from 10am - 2.

It is an exciting time at Parker Village, because right here in Highland Park, a new garden is springing up. We are looking for people willing to volunteer their time to help us more quickly establish our roots and start growing for the community. With your help we'd place more bins more quickly, and fill them and plant them with quite the variety of seedlings.

Our first most urgent task is to set into place the two-hundred 4x4 raised beds that will reside on the inner property of the main campus. We have about 70 already placed, most of which are filled. As a volunteer at Parker Village we'd ask you to help us fill more by assisting us in one of four ways.

1. Placing bins. Two people would carry an empty bin into line, and ensure it is straight. Here are the bins stacked



together.

2. Chopping tree limbs and other wooded shrubbery into 3 to 4 foot lengths. We have many loppers/shears, and you can create a pile wherever you are working and someone can wheelbarrow them onward. This base of wood not only becomes nutrients for the dirt, but it lets us use less soil per bin, and it gives something for the roots to grab onto, easing



health

stability.

3. Filling these bins with dirt. We have a few piles of high quality compost dirt ready to be transported via wheelbarrow. We have two wheelbarrows and many shovels.



4. Planting the seedlings. We are ready to do this ASAP, as we already have many flats of two types of cabbage and two types of collards on the property. Everyone loves to plant baby plants, right?



There is always a need for extra hands at Parker Village. We have water and snacks for all volunteers! As well as a new porta-potty. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please click this link: [Volunteering w/ Parker Village](#). You can put your name (even just your first name or initials) on the day you are looking to join us. If you have any specific questions or concerns, you can call or text me at (313) 478.2150. Thank you for having an interest in this garden, we are grateful and excited! Look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Ryan Hennessy