



Orchard Apprenticeship

Posted by [Henry Jacobson](#)

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[Henry Jacobson](#)

[Orchard Apprenticeship](#)

October 05, 2017 09:42PM

Hello fellow Holistic Orcharders,

Registered: 6 years ago

Posts: 14

After this coming Spring, I will be graduating my local college with a Horticulture Technician Degree. It's a 1 year program but ended up screwing up my scheduling so it ended up to be a year and a half. Nonetheless, I have no idea on what I am going to do. I could get a job in the Nursery business locally or go to a 4 year college and spend more money before I try to start an orchard sometime down the road. So to sum it up, does anyone know of an apprenticeship/program in the USA that I could possibly apply or attend? I would like to learn about management of the orchard and so forth.

Thanks,

Henry Jacobson

Central Wisconsin Apple Rediscovery Project

New London, WI

Zone 5a

[Reply Quote](#)

[Paul Weir](#)

[Re: Orchard Apprenticeship](#)

December 23, 2017 10:56PM

Hi Henry,

Registered: 11 years ago

Posts: 187

Congratulations on your strides you are making to satisfy your deep passion for horticultural studies and I wish you success in your orcharding endeavors to come.

ATTRA has a portion of their portal that is specifically for the posting of job opportunities and apprenticeships in Organic Agriculture. I am including the link here in this post. Please check it out. It will get you going in the right direction.

[\[attra.ncat.org\]](http://attra.ncat.org)

I have it set to Washington State right now as WA is the leading grower of apples in the US and if you can find an organic apprenticeship there with apples, you will also learn how that state moves massive quantities of apples both domestically and internationally too. Growing apples is just part of the dream . . . if you want to sell them too, you will need to learn about market distribution as well.

Good luck and keep us posted of your success!

[Gopher Hill Apples](#)

Zone 8 in California

[Reply Quote](#)

[Joanne Patton](#)

[Re: Orchard Apprenticeship](#)

October 30, 2018 03:54AM

Registered: 7 years ago

Posts: 62

Filoli in Woodside California has an intern and apprentice program. [Here's a link](#) that will give you more information about each program. Their Gentleman's Orchard has hundreds and hundreds of all different kinds of fruit trees, many planted when the house was built in 1918. Here's a link to a very interesting writeup on the [orchard](#).

Best of luck to you!

Joanne Patton, Squire Oaks Farm

Zone 6A, Northern Virginia

[Reply Quote](#)

[Josh Willis](#)

[Re: Orchard Apprenticeship](#)

October 30, 2018 08:47PM

Registered: 6 years ago

Posts: 134

Hi Henry,

Not sure if you are still looking at this point. But last year Eve's Cidery in Ithica, NY offered an internship for their orchard, and I suspect they'll do the same again in 2019. They have a nice website if you want to check them out.

If you're interested in cold calling orchards, then just jump into some of the networks available. The more seasoned orchardists here can better point to established / traditional networks.

Digitally speaking, I've found Instagram a fun way to discover growers (they're all eager to show their process throughout the season), if you look at followers & commenters. I'm sure you could contact orchards via that platform.

Best of luck.

Earthworks

Zone 7a in West-Central MD

Non-commercial, ~100 fruit trees, dwarf to MM106

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