

AFTERGLOW DAIRY FARM
Port Washington, Wisconsin

FULL-TIME
JOB OPENING

GOAT HERD ASSISTANT MANAGER

FARM OVERVIEW

In late 2012, the Afterglow Farm Dairy farm owners acquired an active 300 head cow dairy operation located at 820 Lake Road, Port Washington, Wisconsin. The farm was converted to the current goat farm with the primary purpose of producing quality goat milk using sustainable farming practices. The goat farm is also designed to be congruent with the larger aims of the Afterglow Farm plan, a legacy planning effort for the surrounding 400 acres that includes a historic estate owned by one of Milwaukee's brewery families; ten small-scale organic vegetable farmers working co-operatively as Fondy Farm in conjunction with Fondy Food Center in Milwaukee; a small hopyard, and several other off-farm but related investments that include breweries, a creamery and other sustainable food-related businesses.

The goat farm officially launched in June 2013 with a set of key strategies aimed at directly tackling known goat industry challenges in order to achieve profitability by year three (2016) and to achieve maturity and long-term stability by year five (2018). Once fully operational, the farm will feature an efficient goat milk production facility milking approximately 800 goats, which fits well within the capacity of the original cow dairy footprint. A small farmstead creamery designed for artisan value-added production is planned for 2016, once sustainable milking operations have been developed. The farm is currently in the midst of annual kidding season, milking more than 600 goats and is on track to produce more than 100,000 lbs of milk monthly within the year.

The farm is led by General Manager Barry Midtling, an experienced farm owner and goat producer. The current Herd Manager is his wife, Sandra Midtling who is an experienced veterinarian and cheesemaker. Barry and Sandra are supported by an Assistant General Manager and several part-time farm hands. The current herd manager is planning to transition to lead the Creamery effort so we are seeking a replacement animal expert at this time.

BASIC JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Candidate is responsible to lead all Herd Management, but will work in collaboration with the General Manager and other farm staff:

- Assist General Manager with purchase of animals, feeds, and feeding equipment;
- Oversee day-to-day animal health needs and animal-related operations;
- Develop protocols for milking routine, feeding routines, and animal health, work with veterinarian as needed
- Provide animal data entry and animal care;
- Manage milking operations including milking the dairy herd, cleanliness of parlor and milking equipment and maintenance of milking equipment;
- Feed milk replacement to milking herd and young stock;
- Feed and observe kids; and,
- Keep facilities and equipment clean.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Afterglow Dairy Farm is willing to train the right candidate with limited experience, however sufficient farm experience and hands-on training is required.

- Must be able to demonstrate knowledge of goats and experience working with dairy animals.
- Must have experience working on a farm, preferably a goat farm. Willing to train exceptional candidates with limited goat farm experience.
- Must be familiar with all aspects of job responsibilities.
- Ability to work independently and with other co-workers.
- Sound judgment and commitment to sustainable farm values.
- A two or four-year degree in a related field is preferable but not required. On –farm experience may be substituted for education and is generally more important than extensive academic training.

COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

Afterglow Dairy Farm offers a competitive compensation package. Current hourly workers are paid \$12.50 - \$16.00 / hour. This Assistant Herd Manager position is a salaried position. Currently salaried workers are paid between \$36,000 - \$54,000, plus two weeks vacation, some housing and retirement benefits. Compensation for each employee is determined based on experience and fit.

Port Washington is a small Wisconsin town that boasts a strong agricultural heritage. The farm is located just 15 minutes from the town center and is also only 30 miles outside the Milwaukee metropolitan area, offering candidates access to the best of both rural and urban experiences.

INTERESTED CANDIDATES

Submit a Resume with Email to:

Juli Kaufmann
Afterglow Farm Business Manager
juli.kaufmann@gmail.com

Interest should be submitted As Soon As Possible and No Later Than May 15, 2015.

Feel free to email Juli Kaufmann with any related questions or for more information.