

Walkabout OUTDOOR

Landscapers & Stonemasons

Walkabout Outdoor is a NE Minneapolis based landscape and garden design-build firm that creates diverse and beautiful landscapes that enliven local ecology and strengthen people's connection to their home environment and surrounding community. Our ecologically-informed design, installation and care of naturalistic landscapes and prairie-style gardens is distinguished by our passionate team who creates and executes to the highest standards, which manifest as spectacular art that inherently supports our wider community's collective interests.

Job Description:

Walkabout's Landscapers & Stonemasons are responsible for the installation and care of our artisan stonescapes, and re-creation of the landscapes that define our local environments to which residential and commercial landscapes are a large part. Our Landscapers & Stonemasons are trained in and perform ecologically-informed landscaping and artisan stonework. Through utilizing traditional methods of shaping stone and ecologically sensitive build methods, we hope to increase the beauty, longevity and uniqueness of our art through the ability to use and preserve materials that are both local and reclaimed. Landscapers & Stonemasons are trained in custom feature building including outdoor kitchens, fireplaces, stoops, stairs and landings; traditional dry stacked walls utilizing a variety of stone shaping methods including hand-chiseling, sawing, splitting, and custom flatwork finished with a variety of natural and reclaimed materials. Additionally, landscapers are trained to perform grading methods to reduce soil erosion and increase water filtration, installation of various water retention and drainage systems prioritizing water retention and infiltration where we are able, soft-armored shore stabilization, naturalistic boulder arrangements, planting trees, shrubs and perennials, garden preparation and finishing are all important components of the position. Landscapers may also be trained in custom outdoor carpentry including the installation of pergolas, fences, privacy screens, raised beds and trellises.

Each week begins at our office and shop located in NE Minneapolis. Team meetings are the cornerstone of our operations and weekly we meet to review projects in relation to collective values & interests, client & team expectations, environmental factors & worksite conditions, individual proficiencies, timelines & budgets, and decide collaboratively opportunities & expectations for the project. Landscapers & Stonemasons are then responsible for assembling and loading necessary tools, supplies, equipment, follow through on expectations collectively set in the weekly meeting and demonstrate responsible time-management and professional knowledge in the field, finally reporting through written, spoken and photo documentation at the end of each day on our CRM platform that connects clients & managers to the landscape environment to which our work benefits.

When necessary, Landscapers & Stonemasons engage fellow staff in learning and understanding elements associated with landscaping or skills needed to perform work. They also make necessary recommendations to clients for care and enhancements as they are able or requested by the project's designer or manager. Landscapers & Stonemasons actively seek to learn and enhance their personal understanding of their trade, skills required to master the craft, ecological implications of their work and known solutions, and show interest and curiosity of the natural world and garden environment. Landscapers & Stonemasons report to Crew Leaders, the Director of Field Operations, and Designer & Project Manager. Landscapers & Stonemasons are expected to report to work eager to serve the communities who provide the landscapes which they work and are affected by them. Career development opportunities in design and landscape management are offered to highly motivated candidates that demonstrate creative passion to benefit ecological diversity, artisan craft and the communities that they serve.

Qualifications:

Field Qualifications:

- Interest in landscapes, stonemasonry and its impacts including how the materials, installation process, and final product influence the quality and local community
- Shows keen interest in advancing their craft through the accumulation of knowledge and skills of a variety of stone masonry, landscape, and carpentry techniques
- Shows a commitment to job site safety.
- Understanding of site conditions including soil compositions, grade, water runoff & absorption, light exposure, & plant communities
- Some knowledge of traditional and modern garden and hardscape styles and designs
- Can accurately and consistently throughout the day document completed and need-to-complete tasks, and communicate material and equipment/tooling needs to supervisors.
- Proactively learns new techniques, asks questions and develops their cumulative knowledge of all aspects of the project
- Collaborates with others, generously shares knowledge, shows eager interest to learn & engage with our community
- Has the ability to work independently when needed, proficient carrying out instructions in a timely, detailed manner.
- Creative, autonomous yet experimentally controlled in offering garden and hardscape enhancement recommendations and implementing them
- Maintains tidiness and organization of project site, vehicles, and shop at all times. Keeps tools, vehicles and equipment well maintained and communicates needed service both in reports and directly to supervisors.
- Knows how to use power and small engine tools safely
- Ability to operate a skid steer, excavator, dump truck, manual transmission truck, and/or haul a trailer a plus
- Knowledge of irrigation systems and arboriculture a plus
- Can stay focused, engaged and mindful through the completion of repetitive tasks
- Can meet deadlines and is willing to work hard to do so when necessary

- Can lift 70 lbs and can maintain physical activity throughout the day

Professional Qualifications:

- Keen and acute observer
- Detailed and consistent note-taker
- Accurately tracks inventory, time, mileage, client requests, and other resources & requests daily
- Notices what needs to get done in the field, shop and office and is proactive in follow through
- Has smart phone with photo capabilities
- Possesses a valid Driver's License & clean driving record, and can drive company vehicles safely within the five county area
- Adheres to company expectations, and is courteous, interested and professional around clients and staff members always
- Maintains good physical fitness and withstand sun, cold insect, and environmental exposure easily during working hours without overexertion
- Willingness to assist in sporadic service calls during the winter off-season
- Eager to teach & engage clients and other staff members through the sharing of knowledge
- Uses growing base of trade knowledge and client preferences to help prioritize the work day for themselves and others
- Happily adheres to direction given by supervisory and management staff
- Arrives on time, prepared and dressed professionally
- Smiles easily, evokes laughter, enjoys a good time, and values a joyful life

Schedule & Compensation:

- Our weekly schedule runs full-time Monday–Friday, April - December with opportunities to work overtime, weekends, or year-round. Candidates who are eagerly willing and physically able to work overtime or weekends are eligible for increased pay rates.
- All positions are eligible for employee benefits including paid-time off, health insurance, 401k, continuing education stipend, outdoor apparel, rare & native plants, drinks & snacks, and staff outings.
- \$18-22/hr 40+ hrs/wk without relevant professional experience
- \$20-28/hr 40+ hrs/wk with at 1-3 yrs professional landscaping experience
- \$25-32/hr 40+ hrs/wk with 3-5 yrs professional leadership, management and hardscape experience

Please email letter of interest, resume and professional references to: hello@walkaboutoutdoor.com