

2014 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-029

Contact: Leslie Nusblatt
Phone: (212) 360-8212
Fax: (212) 360-8263
Email: Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City. These assets range from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and over 14 miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as vital meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation – but also as critical engines for economic growth and development.

The past decade has seen a remarkable expansion of this system, with new parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and amenities opening across the five boroughs. The Bronx River was transformed from an urban dumping ground into a waterway that welcomes kayakers and has gleaming new parks dotting its shoreline. In Queens, Elmhurst Park flourishes where huge gas tanks once stood. In Manhattan, the High Line is a unique open space that brings much needed parkland to the Chelsea community. Brooklyn's once-abandoned industrial waterfront is revitalized with the creation of Brooklyn Bridge Park, Transmitter, and Bushwick Inlet Parks. On Staten Island, Freshkills will cover 2,200 acres of former landfill with lush rolling hills and winding streams. And through PlaNYC, we are ensuring a greener and more sustainable city for future generations. NYC Parks has built new regional parks, restored abandoned Works Progress Administration-era facilities such as McCarren Pool, greened asphalt traffic medians, converted part-time schoolyards into full-time public playgrounds, and has already planted more than 800,000 trees toward our goal of one million.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of 14% of New York City's land. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic and social activities, including nature walks, concerts, learn-to-swim classes, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. Each year Parks hosts annual events such as WinterJam, Adventures NYC, and the Pumpkin Festival. In addition, Parks produces many special events, concerts and movie premieres, as well as providing free rental equipment for skating, baseball, and miniature golf.

The Parks Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor to oversee and direct the work of the agency. The Commissioner appoints Deputy Commissioners, Borough Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners who are responsible for managing the agency's divisions. These senior officials supervise the work of thousands of Parks employees. They work with elected officials to complete capital improvements for parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers. They work with the private sector to sponsor free public events. They get the community involved in Parks through volunteer initiatives and educational and athletic programming in recreation and nature centers. They prepare Parks' budget and monitor the work of Parks' ice-skating rinks, golf courses and other concessions.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Operations Excellence (OPEX) is a newly created division aimed at identifying citywide operational best practices. This division engages the agency in discussion of its various initiatives and facilitates the implementation of standardized improvements on a citywide level. Currently, OPEX is involved in a citywide roll-out of Operations for the 21st Century (OPS21), an initiative to increase productivity and utilization of field maintenance staff. We are hiring four interns to assist with the implementation of this initiative. Participants will have the ability to explore several of NYC Parks, attend informational sessions, learn about how parks are cared for and enjoy many of the special events that the agency has to offer in our peak season.

POSITION TITLE

Citywide Operations Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Interns will be involved in data collection via establishing baseline data, direct observation and data analyses. Interns will be involved in generating targeted reports based on data collection and recommending efficiency improvements.

There is an expectation of a minimum 3 days per week commitment and the ability to work between the hours of 7AM- 5PM.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Minimum 2 years of college (preferable), strong oral communication and analytical skills, intermediate proficiency in Microsoft Office, ability to work out-doors, ability to travel, has interests in data driven decision making, public service and the environment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please email cover letter and resume to Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

nyc.gov/internships

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid