

# 2015 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## PARKS & RECREATION-111

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### 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

Queens Recreation provides recreation activities for the public in the borough of Queens. The NYC Parks Green Teens Program accommodates youth ages 13-19 that have a desire to perform community service. The Green Teens volunteer at Recreation centers, surrounding parkland and their communities.

### POSITION TITLE

Queens Recreation Green Teens Intern

### INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

This internship is a mix of indoor and outdoor activities. The intern will learn how to perform environmental projects including tree care, recycling and park clean ups. The intern will work in Queens Recreation but form relationships with departments including Million Trees, NAV and M&O. The interns will be responsible for helping the Queens Green Teens Coordinator plan, schedule and staff Green Teens projects. The intern will play a major role in the Tree Count 2015. Light office work may be required.

### QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Ability to work well with others, follow simple instructions. Great communication skills and customer service is required. A general interest in outdoors, nature and trees is essential. The intern must be willing and able to work outdoors in natural elements. Experience working with 13yrs to 17yrs old population.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The intern must be interested in working with students, high school groups, youth groups and Summer Youth Employment Participants.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Please email cover letter and resume to [Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov)

**SALARY RANGE**

Unpaid