

NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2008

PARKS & RECREATION-016
Capital Projects Sustainability Project
Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Queens, NY 11368

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Parks and Recreation is a public agency which employs over 4,000 employees (11,000 at the summer peak) Its principal mission is to keep the parks, playgrounds, and sitting areas clean and safe, while developing the City's recreational opportunities by offering quality facilities, programs, and events to meet the needs of all New Yorkers.

Parks & Recreation is the steward of more than 29,000 acres of land — 14 percent of New York City — including more than 4,000 individual properties ranging from Yankee Stadium and Central Park to community gardens and Greenstreets. We operate more than 800 athletic fields and nearly 1,000 playgrounds; we manage four major stadia, 550 tennis courts, 54 public pools, 48 recreational facilities, 17 nature centers, 13 golf courses, and 14 miles of beaches; we care for 1,200 monuments and 22 historic house museums; we look after 600,000 street trees, and two million more in parks. We are New York City's principal provider of athletic facilities. We are home to free concerts, world-class sports events, and cultural festivals.

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 the Easter Eggstravaganza, the Great Halloween Party, the Bocce and Beach Volleyball Tournaments, and Green-Up Day. In addition, Parks produces many special events, including concerts and movie premieres. In the summer, Parks' busiest season, the agency organizes free carnivals and concerts, and sends mobile recreation vans to travel throughout the five boroughs 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

Parks' Capital Projects Division, created in 1934 by Robert Moses, the City's first Parks Commissioner, is credited with redesigning and rebuilding the agency's more than 1700 sites throughout the City. In addition to parks and playgrounds, this includes bike paths, sea walls, outdoor pools, boardwalks, basketball courts, roller hockey rinks, baseball fields, and natural areas. The City of New York is committed to achieving excellence in the design and construction of its capital program, and building on the tradition of innovation.

POSITION TITLE

Design Sustainability Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The intention of this project is to evaluate current park's practices and create a manual for Park's designers to use to improve all aspects of park design (from planning and design to construction and maintenance). These guidelines will serve as a practical resource for bringing parks design into the 21st century. Interns will assist in compiling data, editing and reviewing, and synthesizing charts for quick reference of information. The activities and areas of focus within sustainability can be tailored to individuals background and interests.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Students who are studying landscape architecture and/or environmental engineering and have a background in sustainable design, researching new technology, and evaluating materials for construction.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Send your cover letter and resume to Leslie Nusblatt see email address above.

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid and/or school credit depending on school requirements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS