

2017 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-038

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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 more than 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.

NYC Parks' mission is to plan resilient and sustainable parks, public spaces, and recreational amenities, build a park system for present and future generations, and care for parks and public spaces to benefit New Yorkers across the five boroughs.

Through an effort to improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability of our city parks, the Mayor's office has funded a number of equity initiatives including:

Community Parks Initiative

NYC Parks' Community Parks Initiative, at the center of the Mayor's plan, is completely redesigning and reconstructing nearly 60 parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs—35 of which are in construction.

Parks Without Borders

NYC Parks is also leading in innovative park design with Parks Without Borders, a new design approach that focuses on improving park entrances, edges, and spaces adjacent to parks. By extending parks into communities, Parks Without Borders will improve public realm.

Anchor Parks

Under Anchor Parks, the city selected eight parks that have historically received underinvestment, high surrounding population, and potential for park development. The Anchor Parks program is part of NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver's Framework for an Equitable Future, a commitment to create thriving public spaces for all New Yorkers.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City's nearly 30,000 acres. 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 Fall Field Day. 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 NYC 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

The mission of Forestry, Horticulture, and Natural Resources is to protect, restore, expand and manage New York City's natural spaces and green infrastructure. The division is responsible for citywide urban forestry, ecological and horticulture initiatives. Within the division, the Street Trees Planting Program enhances the quality of life for New Yorkers and connects them to the environment by planting, maintaining and protecting street trees throughout the five boroughs. We research and execute innovative arboriculture techniques to advance New York City as a leader of urban forestry.

POSITION TITLE

Street Trees Planting Program Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Intern will work directly with senior forester and program director to identify target planting plan sites throughout the City and develop a "City Street Tree Planting Corridor Plan".
- Survey target streets to assess environmental, structural and social conditions that impact tree species choices for corridors.
- Research and analyze tree census data (GIS) to generate plans.
- Compile, research and present data related to project.
- Intern will learn tree identification skills and will assist in carrying out community relations.
- Assist other foresters with forestry functions in the field and office; perform field-related work
- Respond to citizen inquiries and interact with community boards, community groups and officials within and outside of the agency.
- Develop skills in community-based greening efforts.
- Learn procurement and contracting processes for NYC capital contracts.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

1. A baccalaureate degree or associate degree from an accredited college with major study in forestry, horticulture, arboriculture, natural resources management, forest engineering, landscape architecture, architecture or planning. Preferably six months to a year of professional experience in related work.
2. A satisfactory equivalent. However, all candidates must have at least a high school diploma or evidence of having passed an examination for a high school equivalency diploma and three years of professional experience in related work.

PREFERRED SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS

1. Proficiency in Microsoft Office.
2. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Experience working with the public.
3. Ability to work independently.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The forestry intern will work directly with senior forester and program director to identify target planting plan sites throughout the City and develop a "City Street Tree Planting Corridor Plan". Intern be proficient with GIS. Preferably has knowledge of AutoCad and drafting but not required.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid