

2012 NYC SPRING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-010

Horticulture & Gardening
102 Hester Street
New York, NY 10002

Contact: Leslie Nusblatt
Phone: (212) 360-8257
Fax: (212) 360-8263
Email: Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Parks & Recreation is the steward of more than 29,000 acres of land — 14 percent of New York City — including more than 5,000 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 five major stadia, 600 tennis courts, 66 public pools, 51 recreational facilities, 17 nature centers, 14 golf courses, and 14 miles of beaches; we care for 800 monuments and 23 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 WinterJam, Adventures NYC, the Pumpkin Festival and several others. 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

District #3/Lower Manhattan is part of the Department of Parks & Recreation. We have 91 properties in the District including but not limited to a number of beautiful gardens, parks including the famous and historic Tompkins Square Park, athletic facilities, a historic WPA Robert Moses 1930s' Olympic outdoor pool with recreation center, many GreenStreets, children's playgrounds – Seward Park - 1903! and Coleman Playground are the oldest children's playgrounds in NYC. We are responsible for ALL of the horticulture and gardening in District #3 stretching from the East River to Chinatown to the Lower East Side- maintenance, cleaning, planting, pruning, mulching/wood chipping, watering and all other required and related garden activities.

POSITION TITLE

Horticulture & Gardening Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Our horticulture/gardening intern will participate fully in ALL of our horticulture and gardening activities working directly and hand in hand with the District Manager, Park Supervisors and all gardening and horticulture and assigned Parks personnel. The intern will develop MAJOR successfully tested horticulture and gardening skills as practiced in an urban public environment. The District #3 Seward Park branch of the New

York Public Library is one of the oldest and best branch libraries in New York City and has a strong collection of research and lending materials for additional knowledge/study.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Intern will need to be physically able, hard working, a team player and a quick learner to be able to take initiative and follow through on individual tasks and work assignments and be ready to work in all weather conditions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS

Our daily schedule is Monday – Friday, 6:30AM to 2:30PM. Our work days can be varied as we work with volunteer groups on weekend days – Saturdays and Sundays. This means at least one week end work day for Parks personnel. We can be flexible on weekly work schedule and days. Working with volunteers can be very gratifying and is a valuable skill for an intern to develop. We would highly recommend some participation in volunteer activities to have the full experience and training of District#3 horticulture and gardening.