

NYC FALL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2008

PARKS & RECREATION-3

Pelham Bay Park
Bronx, NY

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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

More than three times the size of Manhattan's Central Park, Pelham Bay Park is the city's largest park property. Visitors to the park enjoy miles of bridle paths and hiking trails, Orchard beach, the Bartow-Pell Mansion, two golf courses and a breathtaking 13 mile saltwater shoreline that hugs Long Island Sound. The parks rolling, coastal terrain supports a mosaic of both natural and recreational areas.

POSITION TITLE

Horticulture Intern for Pelham Bay Park

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Work alongside Horticulture Supervisor and staff to design/install/maintain both ornamental gardens and woodland/wetland areas. During the months of January-April time will be spent working on plant production in the Parks Department greenhouses. The plants grown will be installed in ornamental beds in the spring.

nyc.gov/internships

Occasionally work with community or volunteer groups. Depending on the season, work may involve tree pruning, weeding, irrigation, planting, composting.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

General Interest in Horticulture. The internship would be ideal for someone about to enter, or enrolled in, a Landscape Architecture Program or someone in an Environmental Research or Conservation Program. Strong organizational skills also a plus.

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