

2017 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-067

Contact: Leslie Nusblatt
Phone: (212) 360-8212
Fax: (212) 360-8263
Email: Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

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

Staten Island Forestry is responsible for maintaining the city trees in the borough of Staten Island. Specifically, we assess health and quality of trees and determine removal and pruning needs for the safety of constituents as well as for construction and utility purposes. We also assess damage done to trees during construction, natural disasters or other activities and issue appropriate restitutions and actions.

Interns should be prepared to work in weather conditions including light rain and heat during the summer. Interns should have appropriate clothing and gear for fieldwork to include: boots, clothes that can get dirty, water, food, sunscreen, hat, belt, bug repellent (some sprays provided). It is recommended (but not required) that interns obtain a field guide for trees.

POSITION TITLE

Staten Island Forestry Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

We are requesting 2 interns to assist our division with a variety of Forestry related activities, including inspecting and documenting trees for pruning or removal, reviewing construction sites to determine tree protection measures, maintaining a computerized tree data base, etc. Interns will survey and assess city trees and collect additional data that our office can use to prioritize tree care activities. Interns will learn how to measure, identify and assess health of urban trees; collect, organize, summarize and present data; and coordinate with other interns and our office staff.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Interns may have some horticultural, botanical, forestry or ecological training, but not required. A keen interest is desired over prior experience or training. Computer technology, statistics and math majors are also welcome as we work with large data sets. Experience using a species identification key and assessing tree health or quality is helpful. They should be physically able to carry surveying supplies up to 20 pounds and conduct field surveys on city streets in varying types of weather. Interns should also be acquainted with MS office suite and have experience creating and using excel spreadsheets and word documents.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid