

2017 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-077

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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 by increasing investment in underserved neighborhoods and expanding parkland: NYC Parks' **Community Parks Initiative**, at the center of the Mayor's plan, is completely redesigning and reconstructing dozens of parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs—35 of which are nearing the construction phase.

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 New Yorkers' access to quality parks.

Ongoing work to care for our parks has:

- Reconnected the City's two most northern boroughs, Manhattan and The Bronx, when NYC Parks' historic High Bridge was reopened.
- Re-energized Flushing Meadow Corona Park in Queens, one of New York's largest parks, drawing visitors from around the globe.
- Reinforced our commitment to growing greenspaces by meeting our goal to plant 1,000,000 trees.

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 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 Citywide Services Sustainable Facilities Division is responsible for progressing the agency towards complying with environmental best practices. This is achieved through a wide range of facility retrofits, green space construction, staff training and supporting like-minded organizations environmental efforts. Interns will help in all aspects of assisting the agency to achieve these goals as well as specialize in identifying new funding sources for these projects. Interns will also work directly with the Emerging Technology team to help people and organizations outside the agency learn from our best practices to progress the city's overall understanding of urban sustainability.

POSITION TITLE

Citywide Services – Green Roof Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

A green roof is a roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation and an engineered growing medium, planted over a waterproof membrane. Green roof interns will be responsible for assisting in the maintenance of multiple planting systems and spaces, including the most diverse green roof in the world. This internship is designed to offer hands-on experience for professionals aspiring to a career in horticulture, public gardening, landscape architecture and urban design. Students may also become involved in special projects such as recordkeeping, outreach, public education, garden inventorying, plant signage, beekeeping and flower arranging.

- Assist with all manners of outdoor gardening and groundskeeping.
- Coordinate data logs of system performance and maintain projects as needed.
- Research and implement new systems and technologies to increase the performance of our green roofs.
- Retrofit field sites, facilities and partner spaces with successfully piloted technologies.
- Interface internally, with the partners and the public to conduct tours surrounding these projects.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

- Positive, energetic and self-starting attitude with a strong work ethic and motivation to learn.
- Working knowledge of urban environmental issues and sustainable solutions.
- Excellent communication, organization, writing and presentation skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Word. Experience with AutoCAD and Photoshop is a plus.
- Experience in energy efficiency through building science, mechanical engineering, energy modeling or similar quantitative skills.
- Must be comfortable working outdoors and assisting with other Sustainable Facilities projects as needed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid