

2013 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS AND RECREATION-122

Recreation Sustainability Intern
Arsenal North, 1234 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10029

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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 over 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.

The past decade has seen a remarkable expansion of this system, with new parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and amenities opening across the five boroughs. This expansion was catalyzed by PlaNYC, which included construction of eight large regional parks, such as the restoration of McCarren Park Pool and Play Center in Brooklyn and the expansion of recreational opportunities and enhanced waterfront access in Bronx's Soundview Park. Other initiatives, such as Schoolyards to Playgrounds, which opened more than 200 new school playgrounds to community use, and MillionTreesNYC, which has engaged thousands of volunteers to help plant over 600,000 new trees, are contributing to the greening of New York City, enlivening neighborhoods, and greatly enhancing New Yorkers' quality of life.

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 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 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

Our mission is to enable all New Yorkers to lead physically active lives through sports, fitness, and outdoor adventure. Parks offers a wide array of recreation programs for children, teens, adults, seniors and families. There are 33 Parks recreation centers and hundreds of events and programs that NYC Parks' Recreation Division hosts annually throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, Staten Island and the Bronx.

POSITION TITLE

Recreation Sustainability Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The intern will be working with Recreation staff in planning and implementing recreation programs for New Yorkers in the area of sustainable development. Work will consist of assisting with Citywide sustainable initiatives and Go Green Teen Initiatives. Engage computer resource centers, afterschool, and teen programs in sustainability. Attend meetings to learn about new initiatives, contribute ideas, report on concerns and successes, and provide general feedback. Introduce, reinforce and help manage Parks Department sustainable initiatives. Initiate and advocate for facility improvements in coordination with Parks staff, helping NYC Parks achieve its goals of energy and waste reductions.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Applicants must be working towards a degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Management, Conservation, Resource Management, Geography or a related field.

Applicants for this position must demonstrate good oral communication skills, good organizational and outreach skills, strong writing skills, and have good working knowledge of Microsoft Windows, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Applicants will develop various curricula to meet facility needs, facilitate skill development among staff, and evaluate outcomes and objectives during and after program implementation.

Applicants should demonstrate enthusiasm about helping the Parks Department and the environment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS

This is not a paid internship.

Multiple positions available throughout: Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, Manhattan and the Bronx.