

2015 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

AGENCY NAME

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

DIVISION

Natural Areas: Pelham Bay Park Intern

ADDRESS1 Pelham Bay Park

ADDRESS2 Bronx, NY

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION (Max characters 3000)

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. The Bronx River was transformed from an urban dumping ground into a waterway that welcomes kayakers and has gleaming new parks dotting its shoreline. In Queens, Elmhurst Park flourishes where huge gas tanks once stood. In Manhattan, the High Line is a unique open space that brings much needed parkland to the Chelsea community. Brooklyn's once-abandoned industrial waterfront is revitalized with the creation of Brooklyn Bridge Park, Transmitter, and Bushwick Inlet Parks. On Staten Island, Freshkills will cover 2,200 acres of former landfill with lush rolling hills and winding streams. And through PlaNYC, we are ensuring a greener and more sustainable city for future generations. NYC Parks has built new regional parks, restored abandoned Works Progress Administration-era facilities such as McCarren Pool, greened asphalt traffic medians, converted part-time schoolyards into full-time public playgrounds, and has already planted more than 800,000 trees toward our goal of one million.

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, and the Pumpkin Festival. 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 (Max characters 1000)

The Natural Areas Manager is part of Pelham Bay Administrators office which oversees all aspects of the park's maintenance, operations and management. The Natural Areas Manager is responsible for conducting ecological restoration work for habitats such as forest, woodland, meadow and salt marsh. Environmental conditions are assessed and preservation and enhancement projects are implemented. This frequently involves developing and overseeing volunteer projects with organizations such as the Friends Group, New York Cares and the Sierra Club. Other responsibilities include consulting and collaborating with the Natural Resources Group and other divisions and partners, the oversight of grants and the operation and maintenance of tools and equipment.

POSITION TITLE (Max characters 100)

Natural Areas: Pelham Bay Park Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES (Max characters 1500)

The intern will work under the Natural Areas Manager who will direct and supervise habitat management tasks especially related to invasive species removal. This will involve the use of a wide range of hand and power tools such as weed wrenches, brush cutters and hedge cutters. Instruction will be given in the proper operation, storage, cleaning and maintenance of all equipment. Experience may be gained in monitoring salt marsh restoration projects.

General office duties may be required such as grant research and filing.

QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL SKILLS/AREA OF STUDY (Max characters 1500)

A desire to pursue a career that involves natural areas is fundamental to the position. The capability to use tools, powered equipment and machinery is essential. Basic plant identification skills will also be necessary.

APPLICATION PROCESS (Max characters 700)

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

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid

Internship may be used to fulfill college credit requirement

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS (Max characters 700)

The intern may occasionally work with our Pelham Bay Park Horticultural Supervisor, the Natural Resources Group or with our Park Partners such as the Sierra Club or Friends of Pelham Bay Park.

nyc.gov/internship
