



NATURAL AREAS CONSERVANCY

Citywide Trails Crew Member

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The Natural Areas Conservancy was founded in 2012 to advance the restoration and conservation of natural areas for a resilient and healthy New York City. We participate in a public-private partnership with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation (NYC Parks) to enable high-quality management of the City's 10,000 acres of forests and wetlands. A key focus of our work is increasing awareness opportunities for the general public to experience NYC's abundant nature and diverse ecology. As a relatively new organization, we are on a strong growth trajectory to engage more New Yorkers through volunteerism, recreation, and programming. More information about our work is at naturalareasnyc.org.

POSITION OVERVIEW

NYC Parks has mapped over 350 miles of trails in natural areas parkland. These hiking trails provide a means for New Yorkers to connect to nature in their public parks, but the majority of these trails are unmarked and difficult to navigate. Some trails are in need of rehabilitation to mitigate erosion. In other places networks of social trails (called desire lines) are promoting damage to natural resources and should be closed to restore healthy forest. Working in close partnership with Natural Areas Conservancy and NYC Parks staff and partners, the Trails Crew Member will suggest creative design solutions to trail problems, plan and implement trail improvement projects, and facilitate volunteer and staff engagement in meeting program goals.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Collaborate with natural resource management and maintenance staff to design trails that encourage community use and protect sensitive natural resources
- Prioritize and implement trail projects in parkland throughout New York City through a combination of improvements and closures to existing unofficial trail networks
- Contribute to an accurate database of trail networks and features, and make maps for internal and external audiences as needed. Document all new and ongoing projects
- Train and supervise one-time and long-term volunteers
- Supervise the trail building efforts of short-term seasonal field crews
- Perform physical trail improvement projects include plantings, prunings, augering, and installing physical structures like water bars
- Assist in planning and teaching workshops to partners and staff

PREFERRED SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelors' degree is required, preferably in environmental science or outdoor recreation
- Natural resource management, including trail standards, design, and construction
- Volunteer training and engagement; event planning
- Partnership development
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects and liaise with a wide range of stakeholders
- Experience with ArcGIS and handheld GPS
- Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends
- Willingness and ability to perform physical labor, including walking up to 3 miles a day on rustic trails and lifting objects up to 50 lbs
- Valid New York State driver license



DURATION

This is a seasonal, 6-month, full-time position (35 hours/week)

Mar 15, 2020 – Sept 15, 2020

COMPENSATION

\$20/hour

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to: jobs@naturalareasnyc.org and note the job title in the subject line.