



**NATURAL AREAS CONSERVANCY (NAC)  
URBAN NATURE, ECOLOGY, STEWARDSHIP TRAINING (NEST)  
PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Since 2016, the NAC has offered a paid internship program to over 150 students of the City University of New York (CUNY). Our goal is to support NYC's next generation of environmental leaders to promote diverse and resilient ecosystems citywide. We provide local college students and recent graduates the unique opportunity to receive training in research, conservation, and natural areas management in NYC, and to actively apply that knowledge with field-based activities such as ecological surveying, restoration, trail improvements projects or NAC programming. If you are curious about a career in urban ecology and want an introduction to field work, consider applying to this internship experience!



***Over the course of our program, interns will:***

- Receive technical training in plant identification, field ecology, restoration techniques, and data collection protocols
- Participate in professional development training in the areas of self-budgeting, negotiating, workplace communications and interviewing skills
- Navigate urban natural areas citywide through assigned project work, group stewardship days and alumni events
- Network with a cohort of peers as well as build professional relationships with professionals from organizations like the NAC, NYC Parks, local park conservancies, and city environmental organizations
- Gain valuable environmental field work hours and experience a comprehensive career discernment opportunity

**Duration and Delivery**

Eight weeks between June and August, 35 hours/week (9 am - 5 pm; includes 1 hour lunch break) with the first week focused on training. Students must be available for the entire program which is in-person with select remote days.

**Eligibility**

- Current CUNY students (undergraduates, graduate and students pursuing certifications) and recent graduates (within two years post graduation) - open to any major or degree program within the CUNY system
- Passion for studying and interest in improving local ecosystems as demonstrated through coursework, volunteering, etc.

**Ideal Intern Characteristics**

- Commitment to working collaboratively, sharing knowledge and actively participating in the program
- Ability to think critically at different scales and excellent organizational, analytical, and written communication
- Can maintain a positive, collaborative attitude during hot (and probably buggy) days in forests, wetlands and on trails in variable weather conditions

**Program Locations**

Program locations can vary across the city depending on the assigned project and position focus (forest, wetland, trails, or programming), therefore the ability to independently travel to sites across all five boroughs is imperative.

Do you have questions or want to learn more about our internship program like past intern projects?  
Check out our website: [naturalareasnyc.org](http://naturalareasnyc.org) OR email [info@naturalareasnyc.org](mailto:info@naturalareasnyc.org).