GREEN TEAM JOB DESCRIPTION

Groundwork Hudson Valley is recruiting Green Team Members for its Summer Program. The program offers part-time, paid positions for high school students, ages 14 – 18, from Yonkers. Participants will work on local environmental initiatives such as building an exhibit at Lenoir Nature Preserve, community gardening and work on the Science Barge to learn more about local food and nutrition, peer outreach, and hands-on improvement projects throughout Yonkers. The Team will also participate in three camping trips; to Bear Mountain State Park to work on the Appalachian Trail, to Walkill River National Wildlife Refuge to help with a restoration project, and to Fire Island National Seashore. The program will promote environmental awareness; protect and restore the City’s ecological systems and natural resources; and engage participants in advocacy and service efforts around waterways, parks and open spaces. Leadership and job training as well as team building are also major components of the program.

Program goals are to prepare youth for a lifetime of environmental leadership and to develop community capacity to improve the physical environment. This program is a great resume builder!

Program Participants will do the following:
- Work 15 hrs/wk for $8.50/hr, 8:30 to 4:00 on Tuesdays & Thursdays, June 28 to August 16, 2012. Orientation is on Wednesday, June 27th!
- Participate in classroom and outdoor environmental training, to include educational field trips to explore the ways urban ecosystems interact and contribute to biodiversity, human health, and the economy;
- Participate in youth leadership training, which will include overnight trips and camping.
- Communicate the importance of their work to Hudson Valley citizens, elected officials, and local Boards/Commissions through public presentations and educational activities.
- Keep a journal and share their stories with the National Park Service for publication in GreenBeat newsletter.

Requirements
This is a work and leadership program. We expect candidates to give their best during the program.
- You must receive consent from your parents or legal guardians, including permission to go on trips that will require overnight stays.
- Excluding sick days, you must attend all events and show up to work on time on scheduled days
- You must have a good work attitude and be able to treat staff and fellow workers with respect
- You must be willing to follow orders and complete assignments
- You must be physically fit and be able to perform moderate work, including (but not limited to) cutting vines, raking, building planter boxes, removing trash, pushing wheelbarrows, carrying rubbish and stones, using tools (training provided), hiking and walking along trails
- We will be working out doors during the summer, and some of our events will be in wilderness areas. This close proximity to nature will no doubt result in being exposed to the elements (sun and rain), and direct contact with some flora and fauna. If health or personal issues prohibit these kind of experiences this program may not be right for you.

Groundwork Hudson Valley, Inc. is a locally-based 501(c)3 non-profit working to create sustainable environmental change through community-based partnerships. Groundwork’s mission and operations are based on the understanding that environmental conditions are inextricably linked to the economic and social health of a neighborhood. As a consequence, Groundwork is committed to “changing places and changing lives” through on-the-ground projects that help transform local communities. To accomplish this, Groundwork leads and supports a variety of efforts that bring together the public and private and non-profit sectors to solve complex environmental problems and sustain long-term neighborhood change and renewal.

Groundwork Hudson Valley is an equal opportunity employer. We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any legally protected status. Hudson Valley residents are strongly encouraged to apply.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW: The Green Team works in partnership with the professional staff at Groundwork Hudson Valley. Groundwork performs urban habitat restoration and environmental clean-up projects. You will be working on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Groundwork staff on a variety of projects. Along the way, you will be taught how to use tools, to plan and complete projects, including the following: Gardening; learning about habitat restoration; learning to use tools assisting on the Science Barge; learning about greenways and working on trail development; park cleanups and stewardship; helping the staff of Groundwork Hudson Valley on various other service projects; and gaining knowledge in financial literacy. In addition we will take trips to local national parks. Some trips will include other youth programs and/or Groundwork Green Teams from other cities.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: The work you will be performing at Groundwork can be physically challenging. Not only will you be working on habitat restoration projects and removing debris, but learning to work with tools. This work can be difficult if you are not in shape. In addition, we will be working along trails and completing projects in hilly terrain that require you to hike a distance, often carrying tools. **It is highly recommended that you begin some exercise program prior to the start of work to better prepare you for the work at hand.** Ask Groundwork staff for suggestions.

JOURNALING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: Occasionally you will be asked to journal and complete writing assignments. These are not graded, but are for your own benefit to make the Green Team experience a finer opportunity for personal growth.

INTERVIEW PROCESS: Upon receipt of your application Groundwork will call you to schedule an interview before our panel. If you desire, please retain a copy of this application to assist you in preparing for that interview. Please show up to the interview dressed comfortably, but professionally. During the interview you will be asked about prior work experience (if any), volunteer activities, your opinion of the environmental challenges facing Yonkers, and you ability to work with others to bring about change.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Curt Collier or Emily Eder at 914-375-2151 or emily@groundworkhv.org

GREEN TEAM SUMMER SCHEDULE:
Weekly work schedule - Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30am – 4:00pm, 15 hours paid each week.
Additional Events and Trips as noted below:

**June 27:** GREEN TEAM SUMMER PROGRAM BEGINS
Mandatory Training Day 3:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at 22 Main St, Yonkers.

**June 28:** First Day of Work. Report to Groundwork Office, 22 Main St., 8:30am.

**July 3:** FAMILY BARBEQUE 6:30 P.M. ABOARD THE SCIENCE BARGE, 99 Dock St., Yonkers.
Come meet the Groundwork staff and learn about the camping trips. Also, get a tour of the Barge.

**July 11 through July 14th:** Trip to Bear Mountain State Park and Appalachian National Historic Trail, for training, hiking, and trail work. You will only be paid for one day and will get community service hours for the other work days. This will be a camping experience as well. **On July 14th Parents are invited to join us at Bear Mountain Park to see the projects that the Green Team has been working on!** Transportation will be provided by Groundwork.

**July 25 through July 27th:** Trip to Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge. You will only be paid for one day and will get community service hours for the other work days. We will be working on an invasive plant eradication project and camping at the Refuge. We will be camping at the preserve the nights of July 25th and 26th and will return to Yonkers on the 27th.

**August 12 through August 14th:** Camping trip to Fire Island National Seashore. We will be working on a service project in partnership with the National Park Service. We will camp on Fire Island the nights of August 12th and 13th and return to Yonkers on the 14th.

**August 16th** – Green Team Concluding Ceremony, Certificates, & Family Barbecue. Science Barge, 7 pm

**Keep this page for your information.**
Application for Groundwork Hudson Valley’s Green Team

DUE JUNE 13TH

NAME ________________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________________ CITY _________ STATE NY ZIP ___________

HOME PHONE: ________________________ CELL PHONE: _________________________

EMAIL: ________________________________

DATE OF BIRTH: _____________________________

Where do you currently attend school? _____________________________

Have you worked or participated in outdoor-related activities? ________Yes________No

If yes, please describe:

Why would you like to join Green Team? What do you hope to gain from being a participant of the Green Team? (please write a full paragraph).

What skills and/or strengths do you bring to Groundwork Hudson Valley?

What activities outside of school are you involved with?
Have you ever done any volunteer work in your community? For example, have you ever helped a neighbor, helped at your church or mosque, tutored another student, helped at a soup kitchen, etc.? Explain.

What environmental issues concern you the most in Yonkers? What could you do as a citizen to fix these problems? (Please use the back of this sheet if necessary)

Have you ever done manual labor before? ______ Yes _______ No
What do you think will be most challenging about the job?

How do you feel about camping in a tent for so many days (three nights)?

If you are hired, what size t-shirt do you wear? (circle one) XXL XL L M S XS

Applicant Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Parent Signature ________________________________ Date __________
Application for Employment

Groundwork Hudson Valley Green Team

REFERENCES

Please list below 2-3 references from an adult that you have worked with in the past, who can give an honest evaluation of your skills and accomplishments.; it could be a teacher, a religious leader, a coach, mentor, a former employer, etc. – anyone but a member of your immediate family. Please include their name, relationship to you, phone number and email.

These are required!

- Name:
- Relationship:
- Phone number:
- Email:

- Name:
- Relationship:
- Phone Number
- Email

Please Return By 6/13/12:

Please drop-off application at: 22 Main St, Yonkers, New York 10701

Or email: Emily Eder at emily@groundworkhv.org

You can also fax it to 914-375-2153