NYC Parks is the steward of over 30,000 acres of land — 14 percent of New York City — including more than 5,000 individual properties ranging from Coney Island Beach and Central Park to community gardens and Greenstreets. We operate more than 800 athletic fields and nearly 1,000 playgrounds, 1,800 basketball courts, 550 tennis courts, 67 public pools, 51 recreational facilities, 15 nature centers, 14 golf courses, and 14 miles of beaches. We care for 1,200 monuments and 23 historic house museums. We look after 600,000 street trees, and two million more in parks. We are New York City’s principal providers of recreational and athletic facilities and programs. We are home to free concerts, world-class sports events, and cultural festivals.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Under supervision of the Deputy Director of Historic Houses, perform responsible work and assigned tasks to provide necessary and important horticultural services.
- Inspect the gardening needs of all 23 Historic House sites on Parkland and develop individual existing conditions needs.
- In coordination with the individual Historic House Trust (HHT) sites and volunteer groups, prepare soil and seed beds. Grade, sod, weed, mulch and mow lawns. Repair damaged planted areas, fertilizing and watering soil.
- Coordinate all routine and emergency landscape/gardening maintenance for the 23 Historic House sites on Parkland, working closely with HHT, Maintenance & Operations, house directors and house partner volunteer groups.
- Educate house directors, house grounds crews and volunteer groups on best practices for maintaining/planting historic gardens and park landscapes.
- Work with garden tools & train HHT partner staff and volunteers to properly use this equipment.
- Provide professional gardening knowledge to help develop relationships with private organizations working with HHT and Partnerships for Parks to aid in seeking additional support for the maintenance and planting of all HHT sites.
- Enter landscape-forestry-related work requests into either Parks’ Asset Management Parks System or Forestry Management System and track status to completion.
- Coordinate horticulture programs at HHT sites, including volunteer projects, high school workshops and internships.
- Drive vehicles and operate other motorized equipment required for the performance of duties.
- Supervise volunteers, as needed.
- Assist in and perform tasks involved in the operation and care of hand and power gardening tools and equipment.
- Make necessary general adjustments; report needs for repairs and replacements to supervisor.
- Perform leaf and debris removal from landscapes and exteriors of structures on sites.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. One year of full-time experience in gardening work, including experience in each of the following: planting, cultivating and caring for trees, plants, shrubs and lawns; or
2. A certificate from a horticulture or botanic program containing college-level courses, such as programs offered by the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, etc.; or
3. A satisfactory combination of education and/or experience that is equivalent to “1” above. Thirty semester credits from an accredited college, at least fifteen of which must be in horticulture, agriculture, agronomy, plant pathology, botany, landscape design or architecture, entomology, forestry, floriculture, plant production and/or crop management, may be substituted for the one year of the work experience described in “1” above.

License Requirements

A motor vehicle driver license valid in the State of New York. This license must be maintained for the duration of employment.

Residency in New York City, Nassau, Orange, Rockland, Suffolk, Putnam or Westchester counties required for employees with over two years of city service. New York City residency required within 90 days of hire for all other candidates.

PREFERRED SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS

1. Ability to work outdoors in all weather.
3. Knowledge of herbicides and herbicide application.
4. Demonstrated ability to educate the public, give presentations and develop programs.
5. Ability to work a flexible schedule including occasional weekends.
6. Experience working with volunteers and facilitating education programs.
7. Ability to lift 50 lbs and handle gas-powered equipment.
8. Demonstrated commitment to public service and the environment.
9. Ability to work effectively as part of a team or independently.
10. Knowledge of urban horticultural practices.

Fees: Hired candidates will be subject to a processing fee of $68.00. Hired candidates who are not currently employed by the City will be subject to an $88.25 background check fee.

HOW TO APPLY

For more information and to apply email resume and cover letter to John Krawchuk at hhtinfo@parks.nyc.gov.

Learn more at www.nyc.gov/parks.

POST DATE: 1/31/2020 POST UNTIL: 02/24/20