

# Groundwork Hudson Valley™

*Changing places, Changing lives*

## GREEN TEAM JOB DESCRIPTION

The program offers **part-time, paid positions** for high school students, ages 14 – 18, from Yonkers Public Schools. Applicants who are new to Groundwork must be entering the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade in fall 2017. Graduating seniors who have NOT worked with Groundwork in previous years will not be considered. Participants will work on local environmental initiatives such as building a river viewing platform on the Saw Mill River, removing invasive species, creating an urban homestead, leading interpretative programming in the daylighted park, and building trails. The Green Team will also go on a camping trip during the summer. The trip will include extensive camping and hiking. The entire program will promote environmental awareness; protect and restore 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.

\*\*\*

This year's program also includes 1 day a week working on urban agriculture projects in the downtown Yonkers area. Participants will assist community members in growing produce and most importantly will learn to run the Get Fresh Yonkers Farmer's Market. Participants will be responsible for setting up the market, selling produce, and informing customers about the products.

Groundwork is looking for motivated youth who are interested in creating a better community for themselves, their peers and their families. Successful participants take initiative, ask questions, work hard, have a good attitude and are open to new experiences.

**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!**



Keep this page for your information.

## Program Participants will do the following:

- Work 30 hrs/wk for \$10.50/hr, 9:00am to 4:30pm, mostly on ***Tuesdays-Fridays June 27th to August 11th, 2017.***
- Participate in experiential and outdoor environmental training, which includes 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.***
- Assist in running the “Get Fresh Yonkers Farmer’s Market”
- Lead tours in Van Der Donck Park of the “Yonkers Histories & the Wildlife Mysteries” program
- Communicate the importance of their work to Hudson Valley citizens, elected officials, and local Boards/Commissions through public presentations and educational activities.

## Requirements

This is a leadership and job training 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 and traveling to other states. **All trips are mandatory**
- Excluding sick days, **you must attend all events and show up to work on time on scheduled days. 4 pre-approved absences are allowed**
- 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) carrying stones, digging trenches, cutting vines, raking, building planter boxes, removing trash, pushing wheelbarrows, carrying rubbish and soil, using tools (training provided), and other environmental restoration work.
- You must be willing to participate in camping and hiking events when required.
- You must be willing to work outside. We will be working outdoors 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.

**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 most Tuesdays through Fridays 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: build a river viewing platform; eradicating invasives; gardening; learning about habitat restoration; learning to use tools; 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 national parks. Previous Green Team members have ended up working for Yellowstone National Park, Rachel Carson Wilderness, Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge, Westchester County Parks, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards, U.S Fish & Wildlife Service, and City of Yonkers Parks.



**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. In addition, we will be working along trails and completing projects in hilly terrain that require you to hike a long distance, often carrying tools. **It is highly recommended that you begin some exercise program prior to the start of work to better prepare yourself for the work at hand.** Ask Groundwork staff for suggestions.



**INTERVIEW PROCESS:** Upon receipt of your application Groundwork will call you to schedule an interview. 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 your ability to work with others to bring about change.



Keep this page for your information.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Sara Smith Sell at (914) 375-2151 or [sara@groundworkhv.org](mailto:sara@groundworkhv.org) cell (206) 755-2146  
Roger Osorio at (914) 375-2151 or [roger@groundworkhv.org](mailto:roger@groundworkhv.org) cell (646) 629-2549

*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.*

---

### **GREEN TEAM SUMMER SCHEDULE:**

**Weekly work schedule – most Tuesdays-Fridays June 27<sup>th</sup> through August 11<sup>th</sup> (with exceptions listed below) - from 9:00am – 4:30pm, Friday Farmer's Market Days from 10:00am – 4:30pm.**

**Paid on the 15<sup>th</sup> and end of the month. Additional events and trips are as follows:**

*GREEN TEAM SUMMER PROGRAM BEGINS*

### **MANDATORY WORK DAYS/EVENTS**

**June 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Training Days.** Report to Groundwork Office, 22 Main St., 9am-4:30pm.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> through July 26<sup>th</sup>:** Trip to Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge, New Jersey. This is a mandatory trip.

**TBD National Night Out**

**August 11<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Work**

**(This schedule is subject to revisions due to additional work trips, unforeseen circumstances, weather, etc.)**

Keep this page for your information.





# Groundwork Hudson Valley™

Changing places, Changing lives

*Application for Groundwork Hudson Valley's Green Team*

**DUE May 16th by 6:00 p.m. (No Exceptions)**

**Applications should be submitted to Sara or Roger at 22 Main St, Yonkers NY 10701**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE NY ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you currently attend school? \_\_\_\_\_ Which grade are you in now? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe which Groundwork programs you have participated in (and how often), since June 2016?**

(Check all that apply....the more the better)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Green Team Member   | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Farm Team Member                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Corps Volunteer          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fair (Gorton H.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Adventurers (monthly field trips) |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Botany Class (Gorton H.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Saw Mill River Clean-up                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Barge Intern/Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Rangers              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other recent Groundwork functions (describe)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gateway Restoration Projects   |

**How often have you participated in these events?**

**Why would you like to join Green Team and what do you hope to gain from being a participant?**

(Please write a full paragraph)



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

**Have you ever had a paid job before? NO YES (If so, describe)**

**Since last September, have you done any volunteer work in your community? For example, have you ever helped a neighbor mow their yard on a routine basis, routinely babysat or aided an elderly person, helped in a soup kitchen at your church or mosque, tutored another student, volunteered with another organization, etc.? Explain.**

**What environmental issues concern you the most and what actions, if any, have you done to help?**



**What food and nutrition 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 (5 or more nights)?**

**What regular exercise will you do to prepare yourself for the job?**



## Green Team Checklist

	Yes	No
Are you ready to sleep in a tent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you physically fit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to work hard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to work as part of a team?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to work independently?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to challenge yourself?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready for a real job?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to be a leader?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready for travel and adventure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you ready to have FUN?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 \_\_\_\_\_

*By signing this you acknowledge that all work days and trips are mandatory.*



**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, if available, email.

**These are required!**

- Name:
- Relationship:
- Phone number:
- Email (optional):

- Name:
- Relationship:
- Phone number:
- Email (optional):

- Name:
- Relationship:
- Phone Number:
- Email (optional):

**Please Return By 5/16/17 by 6:00 p.m.:**

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

Or email: [sara@groundworkhv.org](mailto:sara@groundworkhv.org) or [roger@groundworkhv.org](mailto:roger@groundworkhv.org)

You can also fax it to 914-375-2153

