



# Groundwork Hudson Valley

## GREEN TEAM JOB DESCRIPTION

The program offers, **paid summer employment (30 hours/ week)** for high school students, ages 15 – 19, from Yonkers Public Schools. Participants will work on local environmental initiatives removing invasive species, creating an urban homestead, leading interpretative programming in the daylighted park, and building trails. The Green Team will also go on **two** camping trips during the summer. The trips 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.

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 resumé builder!**



*Groundwork Hudson Valley is a locally-based 501 (c) 3 non-profit working to create sustainable environmental change in urban neighborhoods through community-based partnerships that promote equity, youth leadership, and economic opportunity. We strive to achieve this in part through our summer youth employment program, the Green Team.*

*The Green Team program hires local teenagers enrolled in the Yonkers Public School system for summer environmental jobs – for many, their first real job. The program focuses on leadership, group dynamics, and a variety of conservation and construction skills. This hard work is tempered with amazing adventures, like hiking, camping, and swimming. The Green Team begins their summer work in Yonkers. Youth typically work 30 hours a week from the first week of July to the third week of August. Projects include: building gardens and pocket parks, cleaning the Saw Mill River, and removing invasive species. In doing so, they learn first-hand how to make a real difference in their neighborhoods. Working alongside National Park Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service rangers, this program opens participants up to a variety of career opportunities. For some, it is the launching pad for a career in conservation.*

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Contact: Victor Medina at (646) 651-2669 or [victor@groundworkhv.org](mailto:victor@groundworkhv.org)



Keep this page for your information.

## Program Participants will do the following:

- Work 30 hrs./wk. for \$12.50/hr., 9:00am to 5:00pm, mostly on ***Tuesdays - Fridays July 1st to August 16th, 2019.***
- 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.***
- 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.**
- You must provide working papers confirming your right to work in the USA.
- Excluding sick days, you must attend all events and show up to work on time on scheduled days. 3 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. Along the way, you will be taught how to use tools and to plan and complete projects, including the following: eradicating invasive species of plants; gardening; habitat restoration; restoring greenways; building and maintaining trails; park cleanups; stewardship; and community engagement. Green Team will also be helping the staff of Groundwork Hudson Valley on various other service projects, and will be gaining knowledge in financial literacy. In addition, we will have the opportunity to take trips to National Parks and Wildlife Refuges. 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, National Park Service, and the 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 you'll be learning to work with tools. This work can be difficult. In addition, you 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:** Groundwork will be conducting group interviews for Green Team on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, March, 30<sup>th</sup>. A Groundwork staff person will contact you if your application is selected. Group interviews will consist of team building activities/ exercises that will be designed to give you an opportunity to demonstrate your leadership and cooperation skills. The interviews will also give you insight into the kind of work you'll be expected to do if hired.

Keep this page for your information.

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**GREEN TEAM SUMMER SCHEDULE:**

Weekly work schedule –Tuesdays-Fridays July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 16<sup>th</sup> - from 9:00am – 5:00pm (unless otherwise stated).\*\*

**MANDATORY WORK DAYS/EVENTS**

**JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> – JULY 3<sup>RD</sup> TRAINING DAYS.** REPORT TO GROUNDWORK OFFICE, 22 MAIN ST., 9:00AM-5:00PM.

**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>: CAMPING TRIP W/THE NATURE CONSERVANCY ALBANY, NEW YORK.**

**JULY 23<sup>RD</sup> THROUGH JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>: CAMPING TRIP TO WALKILL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, NEW JERSEY.**

**AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT, YONKERS, NEW YORK**

**AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup>: LAST DAY OF WORK/ GRADUATION.**

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





# Groundwork Hudson Valley

*Application for Groundwork Hudson Valley's Green Team*

**DUE March 4th by 5:00 p.m. (No Exceptions)**

**Applications should be submitted to Victor Medina at the offices of Groundwork Hudson Valley, 22 Main St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Yonkers NY 10701**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**How did you find out about Green Team?**

- Former Green Team Member
- Groundwork Staff Member
- Guidance Counselor/ Teacher
- Groundwork Website
- Science Barge
- High School Presentation
- Social Media
- Other ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

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

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

✓	Program	How often (once twice or times/ week etc.)
	Green Team	
	School-13 YASA	
	Great Saw Mill River Cleanup	
	Science Barge Intern / Volunteer	
	Green Corps Volunteers	
	Monthly Vine Cuttings	
	Gorton Willows Program	
	Other	



**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?**

**Describe a time that you stepped out of your comfort zone. How did it feel?**

**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?**

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

**What do you think will be most challenging about the job?**

**How do you feel about spending extended periods of time with people you just met?**

**Have you ever done any of the following? Check ALL that apply. Filling this out is required but will not affect hiring process. Don't worry if you haven't done any of the mentioned activities.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Participated in School Clubs                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pitched a tent                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen an animal in the wild                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Built a camp fire                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Participated in School Clubs                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Joined a sports team                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kayaking                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Joined a club outside of school                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Extra-curricular activities please<br>specify _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visited a National Park                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Planted Trees / other gardening                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Met a Park Ranger                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Recycled  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spoken/ presented in front of an audience |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visited a Museum                          |  |

**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**

If you are hired, what boot size to you wear?

**Men's:          6          6.5      7          7.5      8          8.5      9          9.5      10          10.5      11          11.5      12**

**Other** \_\_\_\_\_

**Women's:      5          5.5      6          6.5      7          7.5      8          8.5      9          9.5      10          10.5      11**

**Other** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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

*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, if available, email.

### These are required!

#### Reference #1

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

#### Reference #2

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

#### Reference #3

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

**Please Return By 3/04/19 by 6:00 p.m.:**

Please drop-off application at: 22 Main St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701

Or email: [victor@groundworkhv.org](mailto:victor@groundworkhv.org)

You can also fax it to 914-375-2153