

Community Forestry Internship Summer 2024

New Haven, like any urban area, has liabilities and assets. In every neighborhood there are people committed to improving the quality of our city. Through the Urban Resources Initiative's Community Greenspace Program, staff and interns bring training and technical assistance in environmental restoration and urban forestry to New Haven communities. Every summer, URI offers Community Forester internships through the Greenspace program



to all Yale students (incoming, continuing, and graduating), with a preference for current YSE students. Interns take practical experience and apply it in a hands-on manner, working side-by-side with volunteers to coordinate, design, and implement locally-driven restoration projects. This summer, consider the opportunity and challenge of building and expanding your urban forestry, public outreach, and project management skills, all while making a difference in the community in which you live!



The goals of the Community Greenspace program are environmental restoration, community building and stewardship. Depending upon community priorities, Greenspace projects most often include planting street trees, converting abandoned lots to "pocket" parks, improving city parks, and expanding public access. Over



the past three decades, roughly 50 community groups have undertaken planting projects each summer.

URI Community Forester interns work with these citizen groups, as well as city officials and non-profit agencies, to restore neighborhood open spaces and streetscapes. Working with up to seven community groups, interns provide both technical and material support to implement projects. URI Foresters receive training in urban forestry,

project planning, site assessment, outreach strategies, and monitoring techniques. The exact nature of community projects depends upon the needs and opportunities of each neighborhood site. Generally, Community Foresters train and guide local volunteers in tree inventory, species selection, site preparation (including soil testing, erosion control measures, and enrichment), tree maintenance (insect control, watering, mulching, pruning, etc), and planting methods.

Prior experience/education in environmental science is preferred but not required. Community Forester interns must have a passion for environmental protection, a commitment to empowering and educating urban communities, an ability to work with a broad range of organizations and individuals, and excellent communication and writing skills.

Community Forestry interns should have either experience or education in an environmental-related field, as well as:

- Commitment to bringing these skills to urban areas;
- Ability to work with varied organizations and individuals;
- A valid U.S. driver's license; and
- Excellent communication and writing skills.

Field work experience is a plus but not necessary as we will train all community foresters in all skills necessary to complete the work.



Hours of the program: Tuesday – Saturday, flexible hours, 40 hours per week. Weekends are Sundays and Mondays. Interns must work Saturdays.

Summer 2024 schedule: 13 weeks. 40 hours per week. May 14 – August 10 with one week unpaid break around July 4. Summer dates are not flexible. **Interns must be in New Haven for the duration of the program.**

Wages: \$800/week

To apply: email your resume to christopher.ozyck@yale.edu (Chris Ozyck, URI Associate Director), and do not hesitate to email or call Chris with any questions (203-432-6189). Interns are also encouraged to apply through Yale's Presidential Public Service Fellowship (PPSF) program **by January 19 at 5pm:** find out more at <https://onha.yale.edu/initiatives/community-partnerships/presidents-public-service-fellowship/information-applicants>. *If not applying through PPSF, applications are due by March 3, 2024 or until all positions are filled.*



Additional Contact Information:
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