

Now Hiring: GreenSkills Program Assistant Intern

Are you interested in hands-on fieldwork, climate resiliency, green infrastructure, or the intersection of people and the environment? The Urban Resources Initiative is looking to hire a GreenSkills Program Assistant Intern to help lead its efforts to construct and maintain a network of bioswales in New Haven. This is a paid, term-limited position, with flexible options for both full-time and part-time work.

About Us

Yale Urban Resources Initiative (URI) is a university/not-for-profit partnership that works on a range of neighborhood-scale environmental initiatives throughout New Haven, CT. Our mission is to foster community-based land stewardship, promote environmental education, advance the practice of urban forestry, and provide Yale students and graduates with clinical learning opportunities.

Our initiatives include a citywide street tree planting program, guidance for volunteer-led environmental projects, park improvement and trail construction, and most recently the installation and maintenance of a network of bioswales. We are dedicated to community participation in all of these initiatives through collaboration with volunteer groups and the provision of job skills training to high school students and formerly incarcerated adults.

The Position

In partnership with the City of New Haven, URI will construct an additional 75 bioswales in downtown New Haven over the course of 2020. The GreenSkills Program Assistant Intern will work in conjunction with URI staff, field crews, and municipal partners to ensure the successful completion of this project. Specific responsibilities will include:

- Construct and prepare materials for use by the bioswale installation team
- Select and procure plants, stone, and other bulk materials as needed
- Perform outreach to residents and business owners about planned construction
- Communicate with local utilities, police, and parking staff
- Schedule and lead bioswale planting and maintenance work as a component of job skills training for individuals with a history of incarceration
- Deliver regular feedback to URI and partner non-profit staff on work progress and team performance
- Other tasks, dependent on the needs of the bioswale team and the skills and interests of the Program Assistant Intern

Qualifications

Prior experience with bioswale construction is not required; URI staff will provide the Program Assistant Intern with on-the-job training. Desired qualifications are as follows:

- Academic and/or professional experience in urban forestry, stormwater management, environmental science, climate change resiliency or related fields

- Willingness to perform active field work in a range of conditions
- Ability to lift up to 50lbs. and stand for extended durations
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, and an ability to work with a broad range of stakeholder groups
- Comfort training and supervising individuals with a history of incarceration
- Familiarity with hand tools (shovel, pickaxe, rake, loppers, Sawz-all) a plus
- Passion for urban environmental work

A valid U.S. driver's license and clean driving record are required for this position.

Employment Details

The Program Assistant Intern will work closely with URI's Associate Director and the GreenSkills Program Manager. The position will begin March 15, 2020 and extend through October 1, 2020. Pay is hourly, with wages dependent on applicant experience. This position is available for both part-time (20 hours per week) and full-time (40 hours per week) work, with preference given to those applicants that can commit to full-time work over the summer (May through August).

Interested applicants should send a resume and brief cover letter to the Urban Resources Initiative at uri@yale.edu.