



Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies



Urban Resources Initiative

New Haven, Connecticut

Community Forestry Internship (summer)

New Haven, like any urban area, has liabilities and assets. In every neighborhood there are people who are committed to improving the environmental quality of our city. Through 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 forestry internships to Yale College and Yale Forestry and Environmental Studies (F&ES) students. The internship is open to all Yale students (incoming, continuing, and graduating) with a preference for F&ES students. This summer, consider the opportunity and challenge of adapting the skills you have, developing new ones, and making a difference in the community in which you live!

The goals of the Community Greenspace program are environmental restoration, community building, and stewardship. The Community Greenspace program encourages neighborhood organizations to undertake community-based tree planting, and long-term maintenance. Depending upon community priorities, projects most often include planting street trees, converting abandoned lots to "pocket" parks, and improving city parks. Over the past two decades, approximately 50 community groups have undertaken planting projects each summer.

URI Community Forestry interns work with citizen groups, city officials, and non-profit agencies to restore neighborhood open spaces and streetscapes. Working with up to seven community groups, URI Community Forestry 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 the community projects will depend upon the individual needs and opportunities of each neighborhood site. Generally, Community Forestry interns: train community members in tree inventory, species selection, site preparation (including soil testing, erosion control measures, and enrichment through addition of compost), tree maintenance (insect control, watering, mulching, pruning, etc), and planting methods.

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

- commitment to bringing these skills to urban areas;
- ability to work with varied organizations and individuals;
- excellent communication and writing skills.

To apply, email your resumé to: Chris Ozyck, Community Greenspace Manager / Associate Director, Urban Resources Initiative; Email: christopher.ozyck@yale.edu; 301 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511; Phone: 203-432-6189