Title: Tibbetts Brook Stewardship Crew Member

Duration: June 1st - August 7th, 2020

Schedule: M-F, 8:00am to 3:00pm (30 hours per week)

Salary: $16.00 per hour

The Van Cortlandt Park Alliance preserves, supports and promotes the recreational, ecological and historical value of Van Cortlandt Park, NYC’s third largest city park. After a merger between the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park and the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy in 2019, the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance was formed. The organization raises funds for the park, coordinates over 2,000 volunteers per year to assist in the maintenance, educates over 1,000 students on the ecology of the Park and provides further experiences for community members to get involved in protecting this important ecosystem. At the heart of Van Cortlandt Park is one of the last flowing rivers in the New York City limits. Though small, Tibbetts Brook is home to many species of fish and benthic invertebrates, creating a biodiversity oasis in a highly developed city. The brook opens up into Van Cortlandt Lake, a 14 acre freshwater lake that the Alliance works to maintain.

Key Responsibilities: The Tibbetts Brook Stewardship Crew Members, under supervision of the Ecological Project Manager, will work as a team to carry out a series of lake and river management and research projects. These projects include:

- Maintain Van Cortlandt Lake through the removal of non-native invasive water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) and other invasive aquatic species
- Remove trash and debris from Tibbetts Brook and the lake
- Assist in a field study on suppression of non-native invasive Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*)
- Collect water samples for processing of nutrients, metals and pathogens to determine health of the water
- Survey plant and fish communities as well as those fishing in Van Cortlandt Lake
- Contribute in stewardship events for the public, leading volunteers in trash and water chestnut removals

Qualification Requirements:

- Currently studying or received bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Wildlife Biology, Botany or similar discipline
- Working knowledge of invasive species management and interest in aquatic ecology
- Willing to work in inclement weather, in wet conditions in a physically demanding position
- Excellent interpersonal skills and verbal communication skills
- A great team player

To Apply: Please send a cover letter describing your interest and qualifications for the position, a resume and three references to john@vancortlandt.org by April 30, 2020.