



Title: Seasonal Field Assistant

Duration: June 7- August 13, 2021

Schedule: M-F, 8:00am to 4:00pm (35 hours per week)

Salary: \$18.00 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. The organization raises funds for the park, oversees 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 within the New York City limits, Tibbetts Brook. The brook opens up into Van Cortlandt Lake, a 14 acre freshwater lake that the Alliance works to maintain.

Key Responsibilities: The Seasonal Field Assistant under supervision of the Program Director: Restoration & Stewardship and alongside the Volunteer Program Coordinator will work as a team to carry out a series of lake and river management and research projects while also leading a series of volunteer events. These projects include:

- Lead volunteer programming, actively engaging community members in fieldwork and restoration activities
- Maintain Van Cortlandt Lake through the removal of water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) and other invasive aquatic species with the assistance of volunteers and high school interns
- Remove trash and debris from Tibbetts Brook, the Lake, and surrounding areas
- Assist in a field study on suppression of knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*)
- Collect water samples for processing of nutrients, metals, and pathogens to determine health of the water
- Maintain ongoing communication with Program Director: Restoration & Stewardship

The above is not an exhaustive list of duties. The Seasonal Field Assistant will be expected to perform different tasks as needed.

Qualification Requirements:

- Working knowledge of invasive species management, local habitats, flora, and fauna
- Interest in aquatic ecology
- Experience in environmental education and outreach to community and school groups
- Willing to do physically demanding work in inclement weather and wet conditions
- Excellent interpersonal skills and verbal communication skills
- Motivated and punctual
- Able to work both independently and as part of a team

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 May 14, 2021.