

## Conservation Gardener

### Position Summary

The Conservancy seeks to hire a Conservation Gardener to work as part of the Conservation & Sustainability Department. This is a field-based role responsible for year-round landscape maintenance and restoration around Riverside Park's 96<sup>th</sup> Street Compost Compound. While not expected to have previous experience in composting, the candidate should also be eager to participate in the process by working alongside the Sustainability Coordinator on the adjacent composting operation.

### Background

Riverside Park Conservancy is the non-profit organization supporting the New York City Parks Department from 59th Street to 181st Street, nearly six miles of coastline and 400 acres of mixed parkland. The Conservancy also provides free public programs and engages in city-wide advocacy for park equity and resilient urban ecosystems.

### Major Tasks and Responsibilities

- Lead the maintenance work and monitor progress on the landscape surrounding the 96<sup>th</sup> Street Compost Compound
- Track data by keeping a daily work log
- Communicate effectively with colleagues and the NYC Parks Department to address maintenance needs and future planning
- Assist with public programming, education events, and volunteer projects at the site for people of all ages and backgrounds throughout the year
- Participate in the ongoing buildout of the Conservancy's Conservation & Sustainability initiative

### Qualifications

- Must have a valid driver's license
- Must be able to operate a tractor with a front-loader
- Must be able to safely and effectively operate basic power tools including leaf blowers, reticulating shears and weedwhackers
- Background in natural resources, conservation, ecology, environmental science, biology or related field – whether through certifications, college degree, internship, and/or one to three years of otherwise relevant experience
- Knowledge of Greater NYC Area ecosystem's flora and fauna
- Ability to self-direct and work on multiple projects simultaneously
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Bilingual Spanish speaker preferred
- Strong commitment to environmental justice and climate resiliency
- Sense of humor a plus

### Physical Requirements and Working Conditions

- Work in the field year-round -- candidate must be comfortable working outdoors in all seasons and weather conditions
- Operate machinery to assist with operations at the composting facility
- Able to engage in physically active work for much of an 8-hour shift
- Able to lift 40 pounds
- Monday - Friday schedule that shifts to Tuesday-Saturday for periods of the year to accommodate volunteer projects
- 7am – 3:30pm shift
- Local travel within NYC occasionally required
- ***All RPC employees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and be able to provide proof of vaccination.***

### Compensation and Benefits

- **Hourly Rate: \$26 / hour**
- Riverside Park Conservancy provides a competitive benefits package, including 401(k), health care and paid time off.

**To Apply:** Please submit your resume, cover letter, and three references via email to [jobs@riversideparknyc.org](mailto:jobs@riversideparknyc.org) with 'Conservation Gardener' in the subject line.

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