

## Natural Heritage Trust Employment Announcement

Title:	Stewardship Crew Leader
Agency:	Natural Heritage Trust
Agency Assignment:	NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation
Location:	Rockefeller State Park Preserve
Compensation:	\$50,000 and benefits package
Work Schedule:	Full Time; 37.5 hours per week; Sunday – Thursday

### Organizational Backgrounds

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The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) is a New York State (NYS) public benefit corporation. Established in 1968, the NHT's mission is to receive and administer gifts, grants and other funds to further public programs for parks, conservation and historic preservation purposes of the State of New York. The NHT is governed by a four-member Board of Directors comprised of the Commissioner of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the Chair of the State Council of Parks, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Secretary of State.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is a state agency within the New York State Executive Branch that is responsible for the care and management over 215 Parks and Historic Sites. Collectively, these public facilities provide both residents and visitors access to natural, historic and scenic resources with opportunities for outdoor recreation and places to learn about New York's rich cultural heritage.

The Rockefeller State Park Preserve The Preserve is primarily hardwood forest dominated by huge oak, tulip poplar, maple, and beech trees. The forests, fields, streams, and wetlands support a high diversity of native species of resident and migratory birds, mammals, insects, amphibians, reptiles, fish and aquatic species, some of which are in decline and now uncommon in Westchester County.

The selected candidate for this position will be an employee of the NHT with work conducted under the supervision of OPRHP at the Rockefeller State Park Preserve.

### Description of Duties

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The Stewardship Crew Leader implements the flora stewardship program at the Rockefeller State Park Preserve. The candidate under the direction of the Preserve Manager and the Natural Resource Specialist, the Stewardship Crew Leader is responsible for supporting ecological stewardship, with specific focus on flora management and conservation. Qualified candidates should have a well-developed knowledge of native and invasive flora., as well as the appropriate methods to be used for removing invasive species and propagating native species. Together with the Natural Resource Specialist, the Stewardship Crew Leader will help to coordinate vegetation management with the Preserve's maintenance team and partners, as well as recruiting and overseeing seasonal stewards, interns and volunteers to complete stewardship projects in the Preserve.

Specific Duties:

- Support the Natural Resource Specialist with Flora and fauna management and conservation initiatives
- Remove and control invasive species; propagate, plant, and foster native trees, shrubs and wildflowers

- Collaborate with the Preserve’s Park Supervisor on field mowing and carriage road shoulder maintenance
- Monitor and track forest pests within the Preserve in conjunction with our partner agencies
- Help monitor vegetation and deer density using established protocols and assist with the deer management program
- Recruit, train and supervise seasonal stewards and interns
- Maintain up to date stewardship and monitoring maps and records
- Organize and lead volunteer workdays
- Meet and collaborate with staff and partners on stewardship initiatives and opportunities to advance the Preserve’s goals
- Develop and manage collaborative opportunities with local schools to advance the Preserve’s stewardship goals and promote the Preserve as a learning environment
- Periodically implement on-going stewardship projects in nearby state and historic parks
- Assist with customer service and park operations as needed
- Serve as the point person for stewardship contracts, scientific study permits and SEQR

## Qualifications

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Required:

- BA or MS in one of the following areas of study
  - Plant Science
  - Botany
  - Plant Biology
  - Forestry
  - Dendrology
  - Plant Microbe Biology
  - Biology
  - Plant Pathology
- Valid Driver’s License
- Game of Logging Levels 1, 2 & 3 (Training will be provided)

## Additional Comments

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NHT is committed to building and encouraging an inclusive workplace that strives for respect and promotes and values diversity. We believe that organizations that are diverse in age, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, ethnicity, and perspective, or any other trait that makes an individual unique, are proven to be better organizations. Please consider joining the team as we work together to build a welcoming workplace where employees recognize their unique characteristics, skills, and experiences are respected, valued, and celebrated.

To support our employees, NHT provides a generous benefits package similar to what is offered to New York State employees. Our total compensation package includes, but is not limited to, leave benefits (14 paid holidays as well as paid vacation, sick, and personal leave); a comprehensive health insurance program including medical, prescription drug, dental, and vision plans; and membership in the NYS Employees Retirement System. Additionally, employees may be eligible for partial remote work schedules.

## How to Apply

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Applicants must submit a cover letter and letter of interest via email: [peter.iskenderian@parks.ny.gov](mailto:peter.iskenderian@parks.ny.gov)

Deadline: COB, 5/31/2024

Contact: Peter Iskenderian  
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation  
[Peter.iskenderian@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Peter.iskenderian@parks.ny.gov)

*It is the policy of the State of New York and NHT to provide for and promote equal opportunity employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran or military service, member status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, arrest and/or criminal conviction record, or any other category protected by law, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception. The NHT is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.*

*Pursuant to Executive Order 161, no State entity, as defined by the Executive Order, is permitted to ask, or mandate, in any form, that an applicant for employment provide their current compensation, or any prior compensation history, until such time as the applicant is extended a conditional offer of employment with compensation. If such information has been requested from you before such time, please contact the Office of Employee Relations at (518) 474-6988 or via email at [info@oer.ny.gov](mailto:info@oer.ny.gov).*