



## Trail Conference Conservation Corps *1200 Hour Terrestrial Team Leader: Position Description*

### **Do you love the outdoors and want to protect it? Thinking about a career in the environment? Come join the movement!**

The Trail Conference Conservation Corps (TCCC) provides great opportunities for outdoor lovers to become leaders in environmental conservation.

AmeriCorps members will spend summer outdoors protecting natural resources, gaining valuable experience in the field, and making a difference in ecosystem-level conservation. The TCCC Invasives Strike Force (ISF) crew mitigates ecological damage by employing the most effective techniques to stop invasive plants in southern NY. Crew members spend most of their time managing invasive plants in the field and will also gain office experience managing data.

The team leader will share our passion for conservation and the outdoors to join us in controlling non-native invasive species. The team leader is responsible for working with the ISF Project Manager and Partners while leading the crew to successful completion of projects. Plant identification and management training will be provided, however it is expected that the team leader will have some experience already. ISF crew members will perform both manual and chemical treatment of invasive plants and will become NY Pesticide Apprentices with opportunity to train and take exams for licensing. This is primarily an outdoor position and includes periods of multi-day camping at work sites. Office days are generally once a week. Weekend work is required with Tuesdays and Wednesdays off.

#### **Program Overview:**

Our AmeriCorps crews are trained by industry experts in sustainable trail building, invasive species management, public outreach, volunteer engagement, and outdoor leadership. You will receive a living stipend for your service and are eligible for an AmeriCorps education award upon successful completion of the term of service.

Members learn and serve outside of the greater NY metropolitan area in one of the nation's finest systems of public parks. The ISF crew implements the regional strategy of the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management by surveying areas for new invaders to the region and responding quickly to priority species using best management practices. Members work with a wide range of park partners at multiple sites throughout southern NY and will be supported by the Terrestrial Invasive Species Project Manager and the LH PRISM Coordinator.

**Service Location:** The Lower Hudson Valley of New York

**Term of Service:** A **minimum** of 1200-hour term of service April 6<sup>th</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday-Monday (hours may vary from 7:00 AM-7:00 PM), including weekends and some holidays. Members are also required to take a 1/2 hour lunch which does not count towards service hours. While on duty, successful candidates will wear a provided uniform.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Assist Project Manager with season planning, including scouting locations, partner coordination, and preparing training materials
- Assist with training crew members and volunteers on invasive plant identification and removal techniques, as well as informally educate the public and recruit volunteers
- Supervise, motivate, direct, and coordinate crew members and volunteers as a team including project management, delegation of tasks, and quality control in the field and office
- Conduct manual and chemical invasive removals and treatments in natural areas
- Conduct surveys of natural areas for targeted invasive plants, includes use of hand-held GPS
- Learn proper techniques for pesticide application and follow all applicable rules and regulations regarding the use of pesticides
- Keep accurate, timely, and detailed records of activities
- Collect and log data and prepare reports on work completed
- Prepare maps utilizing ArcMap and GPS data collected in the field
- Ensure safety precautions are followed, including proper use and care of equipment

- Serve as a role model, facilitator, and educator to crew members and volunteers
- Encourage good work ethic and set work pace
- Provide guidance and support, conflict resolution, and build crew cohesion
- Conduct restoration activities including seed collection, seed propagation, and native planting
- *Members may not engage in any Prohibited Activities as outlined in the Member Service Agreement*
- *Team Leaders are **prohibited from** signing crew member timesheets, evaluating crew member performance, disciplining crew members, enrolling/dismissing crew members, writing and/or signing program reports, managing the program's payroll and budget.*

**Required Skills and Attributes:**

- Ability to inspire, encourage, and lead the team to successful completion of projects
- Project management and team leadership experience, preferably in an outdoor setting
- Organized, responsible, and detail-oriented with demonstrated ability to multitask
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in adverse conditions and under last-minute changes
- Professional demeanor at all times with crew members, volunteers, and park partners
- Able to conduct physically strenuous field work, hiking up to 4 miles carrying up to 30 lbs of equipment over rugged terrain and strenuous environmental conditions (heat, cold, rain, ticks, mosquitos, bees, bears, snakes, spiders, etc.)
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must hold a valid driver's license and access to a reliable vehicle for transportation to field sites

**Preferred Skills and Attributes:**

- College education in ecology, biology, natural resources management or related field
- Pesticide application experience
- Ability to identify native and invasive vegetation of the northeast
- Experience with ArcGIS software, ArcCollector, and with using hand-held GPS units
- Demonstrated outreach skills and teaching experience
- Backpacking, camping, and/or outdoor field work experience

**Member Benefits:**

- Free rustic, lakeside housing at a local park may be provided from May 12<sup>th</sup>- October 28<sup>th</sup>. Work will be done remotely outside of the above time frame.
- Bi-weekly pre-tax living allowance of \$875; not to exceed \$14,000 total
- Eligible for an AmeriCorps education award upon successful completion of the term of service totaling \$4,441.50
- Training in Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED and Leave No Trace Principles
- Training in environmentally friendly pesticide application with opportunity for licensing
- Being a recognized member of an accomplished AmeriCorps Program
- Opportunity for qualified student loan deferment and interest repayment
- Eligible for SNAP (food stamp) benefits

**Enrollment Requirements:**

An individual must be at least 18 years of age; have a high school diploma or GED; be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien; pass a three-part national service criminal history check of the national sex-offender registry, state repository check, and FBI fingerprint check; and complete all pre-service orientation and training requirements. Documentation of age, education and citizenship are due by the first day of orientation. Criminal history checks will be initiated before the start of service; an individual will be ineligible if s/he is required to register on the National Sex Offender Registry, has been convicted of murder, or fails to disclose any previous conviction. Other convictions or pending charges will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in accordance with program policy.

**To Apply:**

Go to <https://www.nynjtc.org/corps-positions>

Applications accepted until the positions are filled.

For questions, email Conservation Corps Manager, Tori Finn at [vfinn@nynjtc.org](mailto:vfinn@nynjtc.org).

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference provides equal opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic disposition, neurodiversity, disability, veteran status or any other protected category under federal, state and local law. We pledge to uphold equality in our hiring and employment practices and to create an environment where everyone, from any background, can do their best work.