

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

GARDENER

THE POSITION

The Gardener will be a full-time employee of The Trust for Governors Island (Trust) providing care and maintenance of the gardens on Governors Island. The Gardener will be responsible for all aspects of monitoring and caring for the diverse gardens within the park or Island's historic district. This position requires superior organizational, interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively as a team member in a fast-paced environment. The Gardener reports to The Trust's Director of Horticulture.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain Island horticultural assets including: planting beds, trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, vines and bulbs.
- Perform work including: planting, damage/corrective/structural tree and shrub pruning, cabling and staking, weeding, deadheading, thinning, cutback, hand-watering, raking, mulching, transplanting, composting and soil mixing.
- Monitor irrigation systems in assigned zone.
- Plan and procure replacement plants seasonally, including the assessment of plant species failures and the development and implementation of replacement planting plans.
- Work as part of a team to create horticultural standard operating procedures for the Island and in assigned zone.
- Collaborate on the design and maintenance of new planting areas across the Island that create seasonal interest, such as pollinator beds and bulb plantings.
- Have familiarity with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies and ability to execute in assigned zone.
- Maintain horticulture back-of-house, including: propagation and care for plants in TGI nursery and inventory and maintenance of tools and equipment.
- Participate in Island-wide seasonal clean-up activities.
- Work as part of a team on the creation and management of a horticultural database to document plant information, growth data and pest and disease issues.
- Gather information to support the creation of public-facing horticulture information.
- Manage zone volunteers and seasonal gardeners.
- Work with corporate volunteer groups to address large horticultural projects.
- Communicate with the Operations team regarding park infrastructure, cleanliness, zone usage and programming.
- Actively promote and contribute to the Island's sustainability initiatives, including coordination with on-Island program partners.
- Act as an ambassador for Governors Island, answering questions from visitors, including horticulture, park design, history and general information.
- Other duties, as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS

- Three or more years of horticultural experience, preferably in public horticulture, with in-depth knowledge of plant culture, maintenance and identification.
- Degree or certification in professional horticulture program is preferred.
- NYS Pesticide Technician, or ability to obtain within six months of hire date.

- Ability to prioritize tasks.
- Ability to lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Position requires the employee to perform physical labor (lifting, bending, squatting, etc.) in all weather conditions.
- Experience supervising volunteers.
- Strong interpersonal, communication (oral and written), organizational and problem-solving skills.
- High level of personal accountability, self-organization, autonomy and discipline.
- Ability to work with people at all levels with an open and engaging personality.
- Ability to be flexible and make sound professional judgments.
- Ability to work overtime, weekends, and holidays, as needed.
- Proficiency in all Microsoft Office programs and data collection for database.
- Driver's license.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume as a single PDF document to jobs@govisland.org with "Gardener" in the subject line. No phone calls please.

The Trust for Governors Island does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, parental status, military service or other non-merit factor.

BACKGROUND

Governors Island is a 172-acre island in the heart of New York Harbor nestled between Lower Manhattan and the Brooklyn waterfront. Eight minutes from the energy and excitement of the City, the Island is a popular seasonal destination. A resilient new park is complemented by dozens of unique historic buildings, environmental educational facilities, a rich arts and culture program and a 22-acre National Monument managed by the National Park Service. Unlike anywhere else in New York, Governors Island offers peaceful settings with sweeping views of the Harbor, Lower Manhattan skyline and Statue of Liberty. Looking ahead, the Island will be activated year-round as a sustainable campus for learning and entrepreneurship, with plans for expanded commercial and non-profit uses in its future.

ABOUT THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

The Trust is a nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York. It is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making this island at the center of New York Harbor a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit and commercial facilities. For more information, visit www.govisland.org