

Green Iowa AmeriCorps – Summer Positions
Land and Water Stewards: Trees Forever

Summer Position – Trees Forever Growing Futures Support
Two people in Des Moines; Two people in Cedar Rapids

Description: Work alongside the Des Moines or Cedar Rapids Program Coordinator to support Trees Forever's Growing Futures program – a teen employment and tree care program – and other area tree-related work. Growing Futures offers teens an opportunity to gain job skills and enhance the urban forest. The program provides hands-on assistance with tree care, tree planting, and outreach programs. Growing Futures programming includes career exploration and long-term employment skills training as well as outdoor education.

The AmeriCorps member will take on the needed work to supervise teen Growing Futures employees in the field during the critical watering season. There will also be opportunities to provide education on the benefit of trees to the local community. The position will build capacity for Growing Futures and other area tree-related work through the following roles and responsibilities.

- Teen Employee Supervision
 - Work alongside teen employees to water trees across Des Moines
 - Drive teen employees in a 15-passenger van and trailer to watering routes (training will be provided)
 - Motivate and empower teens during the workday to ensure work gets done while creating a fun, caring atmosphere.
 - Attend Professional Development activities (all that have been previously set) with the teen employees each week.
- Tree Care and Invasive Species Removal work
 - Water, mulch, and lightly prune newly planted trees to ensure long-term health
 - Assist with woodland management workdays.
 - Work with staff to plan efficient and effective program delivery models (i.e. efficient routes for watering trees, analysis of tree data and areas to target tree care, etc.).
 - Enter all tree care work into tracking software and/or work with Program Coordinator to track this information.
- Other Tasks
 - Seek out and participate in educational events to expand personal tree knowledge.
 - Work with existing partners and community organizations as well as seek new relationships that could lead to program improvements or lead to area activities related to Trees Forever's work.
 - Participate in Trees Forever activities as prioritized and directed.

The ideal candidate will possess the following skills:

- Friendliness, ability to function as part of a team.
- Technological skills including Microsoft Office Suite with GIS proficiency helpful.

- Strong communication and organizational skills. Proficiency in writing general correspondence and other documents required as part of duties listed above.
- Interpersonal skills necessary to build effective relationships with staff members, partners, and volunteers.
- Proven passion for service, the environment, sustainability and youth and volunteer empowerment.
- Ability to lift up to 40 lbs. in each arm
- Able to drive a 15-passenger van and/or pickup truck with trailer attached
- Have a current driver's license.