



TERRACORPS

TerraCorps is an AmeriCorps affiliated start-up environmental non-profit preparing and mobilizing emerging leaders to help communities gain access to and conserve land for people and nature. Working at the intersection of the land conservation and urban agriculture movements, our vision is to create a future where land is the foundation of health and well-being for ALL people in EVERY community.

This year's TerraCorps program will support up to eighty-eight full-time AmeriCorps Members across three states (MA, RI, and CT), serving in one of five positions: Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), Regional Collaboration Coordinator (RCC), Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), Youth Education Coordinator (YEC), or Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator (SAC). Members will serve in full-time, 11-month terms (August 31st, 2020-July 30, 2021) in which they complete at least 1,700 hours of service with one of our partner organizations. Members receive a living allowance, education award, and additional AmeriCorps benefits (see full list at end of announcement).

Emerald Necklace Conservancy will host a **Land Stewardship Coordinator** for the 2020-2021 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at terracorps.org.

Land Stewardship Coordinator with Emerald Necklace Conservancy

Emerald Necklace Conservancy

450 Jamaicaway
Boston, MA 02130

www.emeraldnecklace.org

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy is a private non-profit stewardship organization founded in 1998 with the mission to restore and improve the Emerald Necklace for all. The Conservancy connects people with the Emerald Necklace parks and uses projects and programs to enrich the visitor experience and restore and renew the 1,100 acres of landscape, waterways and parkways extending from Boston's Back Bay through Brookline and Jamaica Plain to Franklin Park in Dorchester. The Conservancy works in collaboration with its partners to restore, improve, maintain, and protect this iconic urban landscape through advocacy, maintenance and restoration, education and access, and volunteer and youth stewardship programs.

Land Stewardship Coordinators (LSC) Build the long-term capacity of their Service Sites by creating networks of volunteers to support hands-on stewardship of community lands. They organize, train, and collaborate with municipal boards, neighborhood and civic associations, community members, youth groups, and schools to care for, improve access to, and support the long-term resiliency and sustainable use of community lands. By providing training and organizing collaborative land-focused projects, they increase resources for community projects,

demonstrate environmentally responsible land management, help individuals build skills, and nurture an inclusive sense of public ownership in the local landscape. LSCs generally spend roughly 60% of their time in the office and 40% in the field.

TerraCorps Members engage with their supervisors to develop and carry out three or more capacity building projects over the course of the service year. Some of these projects will involve recruiting, training, and/or managing community volunteers. Emerald Necklace Conservancy has proposed the following potential projects for their Land Stewardship Coordinator:

- 1) **Enhance and expand the Volunteer Steward Program** by leading volunteer stewardship projects, coordinating scheduling, and tracking and maintaining relevant metrics to create useful program evaluation tools.
- 2) **Manage Volunteer Leader Program** by widely promoting the program; leading the training of long-term recurring volunteers in invasive removal (including plant identification and removal, safety and tool usage), participant safety and satisfaction, volunteer management, and other relevant skills; monitoring the progress of volunteer leaders; and keeping them engaged through social activities, additional training, or other community-building opportunities.
- 3) Create best practices to make our programming more inclusive and accessible for underserved communities, English language learners, and people with disabilities
- 4) Implement and conduct exemplary volunteer recognition protocols.

Development of these and other projects will occur during the first two months of service and consider the member's interests and skills.

Required AmeriCorps Qualifications

- A US citizen, US national, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- At least 18 years old
- A minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- No more than three previous terms as an AmeriCorps member
- Pass a criminal history background check, including an FBI check

Desired Qualifications

- Strong writing and verbal communication skills
- Able to serve both independently and as a member of a team
- Comfort navigating computer software programs (Microsoft Office Suite, GIS, Raisers Edge)
- Training and experience pertinent to the Land Stewardship Coordinator position and projects listed above
- Experience training and educating community members and volunteers
- Experience working in an outdoor leadership role including facilitating team-building initiatives, identifying and removing invasive plants, and demonstrating correct and safe usage of landscaping tools
- Driver's license in good standing; must be able to drive a truck

For questions about the Emerald Necklace Conservancy's service positions, contact Field Operations Manager Ellen Arnstein at earnstein@emeraldnecklace.org

AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements

This year's TerraCorps Members will serve from August 31st, 2020-July 30th, 2021. All Members are expected to serve full-time, commit to serve for the entire 11-month term, and complete at least 1,700 hours of service, including time spent in trainings and service with the full TerraCorps team. Weekly service averages 38 hours and commonly includes some night and/or weekend activities.

AmeriCorps programs provide equal opportunities. TerraCorps will recruit and select persons in all positions to ensure a diverse and inclusive climate without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, color, political affiliation, creed, national origin, marital status, or any other status as protected by federal, state, and local laws. We encourage applications from individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service upon request.

Member Compensation and Benefits

- TerraCorps Members will receive a living allowance of up to \$15,200 (pre-tax) over the 11-month term of service, which is \$633.33 (pre-tax) per 24 biweekly pay periods.
- TerraCorps assists Members in obtaining health insurance coverage. Reimbursement of costs may be available.
- Childcare assistance may be provided in cases of financial need.
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps Members receive a taxable \$6,195 education award that can be used for future education or to pay off existing school loans. See nationalservice.gov/resources/edaward for info and restrictions.
- TerraCorps Members are eligible for forbearance of most federally-guaranteed student loans, as well as payment of interest accrued during service.
- TerraCorps Members will receive mentorship, training, and career development opportunities while serving directly with community-based nonprofits.
- TerraCorps Members experience the personal rewards of national service and community engagement.

Note: TerraCorps Members are responsible for their own housing and must have access to reliable transportation.

How to Apply

2020-2021 Service Site organizations, service positions, and application procedures are described at terracorps.org.

A complete member application includes a 1-page cover letter, a resume, two references, and an application form. Member application and detailed instructions can be found at <https://terracorps.org/become-a-member/>.

Member applications will be collected by TerraCorps and shared with Service Sites. Do not send applications directly to a Service Site.

We strongly encourage interested individuals to apply as soon as possible once applications are posted mid-April. Position offers and acceptances will be made on a rolling basis. The program aims to fill all positions by late June, but Service Sites will continue interviews as needed until all positions are filled.

For questions about TerraCorps, contact Hanna Mogensen, who manages TerraCorps' recruitment process. Email admin@terracorps.org or call 978-364-9770 x2.

Additional Information About this Program

TerraCorps seeks to create change by achieving a broader, more authentic engagement of the diverse peoples living in our communities. When we do this, resources will grow, access to land will increase, the pace of land conservation will accelerate, and whole communities will achieve more resilient futures. To learn more about TerraCorps, visit: terracorps.org.

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 people in intensive service each year through more than 15,000 nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps Members help communities tackle pressing problems and also leverage their service by mobilizing volunteers to help address community needs for environmental stewardship, health, education, economic opportunity, disaster services, and support to veterans and military families. To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit americorps.gov.

TerraCorps is a grant program contingent upon renewal of federal funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). TerraCorps is also supported in part by the Massachusetts Service Alliance in MA.