



Clean & Green Coordinator – Full Time

POSITION OVERVIEW: Isles is seeking a creative and energetic individual to join the Clean & Green Staff. An important part of the Community Development & Youth Services (CDYS) Organization, Clean & Green makes strategic neighborhood revitalization interventions to improve appearance, increase safety, and make public spaces available

for recreation, socializing, and creative activity by residents. This work includes the clean-up and maintenance of vacant lots and distressed neighborhood parks, and the creative improvement and programming of maintained sites, including art installations, recreational activities, community meetings, and educational and cultural workshops.

In coordination with Isles staff, Trenton Health Team and the City of Trenton, the Clean & Green Coordinator will play a vital role in the rehabilitation of parks and vacant lots in and around the Battle Monument/North Trenton and Downtown Trenton neighborhoods, both located in Trenton's North Ward. The coordinator will also be responsible for developing relationships with, supporting, and directing groups of resident volunteers in the adoption and care of parks in support of larger Clean & Green efforts.

Position Responsibilities

Parks and Vacant Lot Improvement and Activation

- Clean, maintain, and develop programming for public parks and vacant and abandoned lots
- Develop and implement creative ways to activate vacant lots and attract residents to use them for safe, healthy, social activities, including:
 - Recreational activities (T-Recs, Isles' mobile recreational unit)
 - Food and nutrition education activities
 - Cultural programming
 - Art programming and installations

Community Engagement

- Develop relationships with residents and neighbors who live near Clean & Green projects
- Solicit resident volunteers to adopt and care for the parks in the area
- Work with Isles Urban Agriculture staff to capitalize on existing Isles Garden Support Network gardeners and volunteers to join park teams and/or provide training to the park teams
- Collaborate with civic associations and other stakeholders in the neighborhoods to link Clean & Green efforts with periodic neighborhood clean-up efforts
- Work cooperatively with other Clean & Green Crew members

Grounds Maintenance

- Utilize proper safety procedures, and utilize tools and equipment properly
- Document lot and park conditions before, during, and after work has been completed, and assist with resident surveys to gauge impact of work
- Coordinate work with and acquisition of resources from, the City of Trenton, including trash pickup, tree pruning or removal, and delivery or pickup of bulk materials such as compost, mulch, or wood chips
- Train volunteers in safety procedures, tool and equipment use, and plant and tree identification

- Coordinate and maintain equipment needed for park projects
- Utilize services to safely identify and mark out utility lines that may exist in project areas (811/NJ One Call)
- Other duties in support of the department's goals may be assigned.

Education, Experience, Certifications

- High school diploma, high school equivalence (HiSET), or general education degree (GED); and at least one year or more of related experience and/or training
- Experience in developing engaging and desired programming with and for community members
- Experience in design and construction of creative public art and amenities
- Experience in lawn and grounds maintenance, horticulture, tree pruning, and/or similar tasks
- Experience using lawn maintenance equipment
- Basic carpentry or construction skills a plus
- Proven history of working with varied and conflicting stakeholders and audiences
- Cultural competency and cultural humility
- Commitment to racial equity and equitable community development
- Comfortable working as part of a team
- Passion for the environment and healthy living
- Valid NJ Drivers License in good standing with insurable driving record required
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) required
- Ability to work evenings and weekends

Physical Demands

- This job entails significant outside work in all kinds of weather, and requires that weight be lifted or force be exerted as follows: up to 50 pounds frequently
- Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.

ABOUT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & YOUTH SERVICES (CDYS):

The Isles CDYS Team is a newly organized division that links community planning & development with youth services to effectively deliver coordinated community revitalization and support. CDYS collaborates with residents and community stakeholders to identify community concerns and priorities, create action-oriented, community-led neighborhood plans, and secure resources to sustain neighborhood revitalization and youth services over the long term. To do this, we implement evidence-based strategies to enhance and strengthen communities, including community and school gardens, youth education, food and nutrition education, coordination of neighborhood redevelopment, economic development programs, beautification and activation of underutilized properties, cost-effective recreation programs, and advocacy for policy and program changes. In addition, CDYS leads city-wide research and planning initiatives related to violence reduction, creative placemaking, and food systems. CDYS work represents a holistic effort to positively change perception and experience of neighborhoods, streets, and communities across Trenton, integrating urban agriculture, real estate development, placemaking, youth development, and planning.

ABOUT ISLES: Founded in 1981, Isles is a nationally recognized nonprofit community development and environmental organization with the mission to foster self-reliant families in healthy, sustainable communities. Each year, Isles reaches thousands of central New Jersey residents with opportunities for at-risk youth job training, affordable housing development,

financial literacy training, homeownership counseling, community gardening, environmental health and education, community organizing, and regional planning.

WHAT IT'S LIKE TO WORK FOR ISLES: Throughout its 40-year history, Isles has proactively and innovatively anticipated and responded to changing needs and priorities of the Trenton community. Isles works to impact underlying causes of social inequities in meaningful and effective ways, while ensuring a healthy work-life balance for staff members. Isles' culture is built around collaboration and mutual support, internally and externally, and a socially conscious commitment to advancing social justice and equity. Our team consists of more than 50 employees, plus a corps of volunteers and an engaged Board of Directors.

Interested candidates should submit cover letter and resume to hr@isles.org. Your application materials should demonstrate why you're a good fit for this position and what *specific* skills, experience, talents, and interest you'll bring to the table.