

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

SUPERINTENDENT OF GROUNDS

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.

In 2018, Governors Island will be open to the public every day from May 1-October 31. Island operations continue year-round, with a public high school, artist residency program and new commercial tenancies.

THE POSITION

The Superintendent of Grounds is a full-time year-round employee of the Trust for Governors Island (Trust). Reporting to the Director of Park and Public Space Operations, the Superintendent will manage a team of groundskeepers in the care and maintenance of the Island's diverse grounds, lawns and landscapes. The Superintendent will work closely with the Operations and Programming teams during Public Access season (May 1-October 31) to set-up sites for events and programs. This position requires superior organizational, interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively as a team member in a fast-paced environment.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work in the field, supervising and leading a team of full-time and seasonal Groundskeepers to maintain the Islands grounds, lawns and landscapes.
- Work collaboratively with the Trust's Director of Park and Public Space and horticultural staff to schedule daily field activities associated with grounds maintenance.
- Document and manage weekly time sheets, work schedules, vacation and holiday schedules for Groundskeeping team.
- Oversee training of full-time and seasonal Groundskeeping team to ensure proper, efficient and safe use of all equipment and tools.
- Coordinate with the Trust's Park Operations Supervisor and Mechanic to ensure that all equipment is inspected, cleaned and receives necessary routine maintenance. Document and report any damage or service issues with Island's equipment or tools.
- Lawn maintenance includes mowing, string trimming, aeration, seeding, fertilization, top-dressing, irrigation maintenance and repair, as well as seasonal turf installation and restoration.
- Ground maintenance includes installation or transplanting shrubs and trees, ground-based pruning, weeding, watering, raking, mulching, soil blending, clearing debris from paths and roadways, collection of leaves, snow removal, set up and take down of landscape fencing.
- Athletic Field maintenance includes grooming clay infields, striping of playing field lines, relocation and set up of goals and bleachers.
- Maintain horticulture back-of-house, including transport of bulk materials, inventory and maintenance of tools and equipment, daily inspection and cleaning of equipment.
- Actively promote and contribute to the Island's sustainability initiatives, including coordination with on-Island program partners.

- Act as an ambassador for Governors Island, providing park visitors general information about the Island, park design, horticulture, and Island history.
- Ensure that the Island’s landscapes and grounds are utilized by the public, tenants and program partners in a way that is safe and protects the health of lawns, trees and other plantings.
- Coordinate with the Trust’s Programming staff to facilitate event load-ins and set-ups
- Work with Capital Construction staff to facilitate activities by contractors and tenants.
- Lead snow removal and storm response teams to clear island roads, paths and landscapes.

REQUIREMENTS

- 5-7+ years of experience or a combination of experience and formal education to demonstrate proficiency in maintenance of grounds, lawns and landscapes.
- 2+ years of experience in a supervisory role, managing full time and seasonal labor.
- New York Pesticide applicator license or ability to be licensed within 1 year of hire.
- Experience with all types of grounds maintenance equipment including mowers, trimmers, aerators, slit seeders, spreaders, screeners, rollers, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, blowers, rototillers, landscape tractors and skid steers.
- Strong interpersonal, communication (oral and written), organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to perform heavy, physical labor on a daily basis, to walk, reach, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl and regularly lift and/or move 75 lbs with proper tools.
- 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 a flexible schedule of days, evenings, weekends, long shifts and holiday shifts.
- A team-player mentality with a willingness to collaborate on any and all tasks required for maintaining the highest standard of Island operations.
- Computer-literate.
- Driver’s license.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume as a single PDF document to jobs@govisland.org with “Superintendent of Grounds” in the subject line. No phone calls please.

The Trust for Governors Island does not discriminate in employment 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.

ABOUT THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

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.