



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 60 full-time AmeriCorps Members across Massachusetts and Rhode Island each serving in one of five positions: Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), Land Conservation Coordinator (LCC), Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), Youth Education Coordinator (YEC), or Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator (SAC). Members will serve in full-time, 11-month terms (August 29th, 2022-July 28, 2023) 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).

Friends of the Middlesex Fells (FOF) will host a Land Stewardship Coordinator for the 2022-2023 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at <https://terrakorps.org/>.

Land Stewardship Coordinator with Friends of the Middlesex Fells

Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation

235 West Foster Street

Melrose, MA 02176

fells.org

Friends of the Middlesex Fells (FOF) is a dynamic and growing non-profit organization working in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to promote the conservation, appreciation, and sustainable enjoyment of the Middlesex Fells Reservation. We envision a Middlesex Fells Reservation where nature and people thrive in harmony, supported by a diverse and caring community conserving it for future generations. Key activities include:

- building a community that shares an appreciation for the Fells through promoting volunteerism and partnerships;
- developing initiatives to protect and enhance the ecology of the Fells, including invasive species management and trail stewardship;
- providing opportunities for people to learn, enjoy, and care for the Fells through more than 100 free guided hikes and Fells Forest Camp each year;
- supporting the DCR in the sustainable management of the Fells through our Trail Adopters program and Inspiring Stewardship campaign.

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.

Friends of the Fells has proposed the following potential project(s) for their Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), which will be overseen by the FOF Community Engagement and Operations Manager and in close collaboration with DCR operations staff:

Invasive Species Management: The LSC will coordinate and lead group volunteer events to support a multi-year invasive plant management plan to restore meadow, woodland, and wetland-adjacent habitats. Service projects will be planned and executed in close collaboration with FOF staff, the DCR State Ecologist, and SWCA (an environmental consulting firm).

Trails Management: The LSC will support FOF's Trail Adopter program, including recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers and volunteer groups to conduct trail maintenance and trash pickup activities, and helping to develop enhancements to reporting of trail conditions and issues to DCR operations staff.

Participatory Science Projects: FOF partners with Earthwise Aware (EWA) to collect valuable scientific data on Fells usage, bio pollution, phenology, insects, wildlife, and more using participatory science and devoted volunteers. The LSC will be trained to collect data using in situ mobile phone apps, gather data weekly (5-10 hours per week), and train volunteers to do the same. The LSC will also work with the Community Engagement and Operations Manager to coordinate participatory science volunteer efforts, develop volunteer recruitment strategies, and serve with EWA staff to summarize and communicate information gained through these efforts.

Volunteer Engagement: The LSC will expand our Volunteer Program by directly supervising volunteers and volunteer groups (including local schools, community groups, scouts) to carry out the land stewardship initiatives outlined above at regular weekend and weekday work events, and will also supervise volunteers and represent FOF at annual weekend events such as Park Serve Day, Coast Sweep, REI National Trails Day, and Tufts partner events.

Supporting Activities: The LSC will also support the potential projects outlined above by writing blog posts, supporting media outreach, and writing website content to inform the public of future plans, volunteer needs, and achievements relating to the field program. The LSC will also assist in the regular maintenance and upkeep of all field tools, and will support FOF participation in community outreach events.

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 (Google Suite, Microsoft Office, Canva, Wild Apricot, WordPress, Facebook)
- Training and experience pertinent to the Land Stewardship Coordinator position and projects listed above
- Experience training and educating community members and volunteers
- Experience with natural systems and identifying plant and wildlife species
- Able to be active outside in a range of weather conditions, and navigate uneven terrain
- Ability to lift 30+ pounds and to bend, stoop, reach, carry, climb, and lift as necessary to perform assigned tasks

For questions about Friends of the Fells' service positions, contact Maddie Morgan (maddie.morgan@fells.org)

AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements

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 several service days with the full TerraCorps cohort. 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 \$18,500 (pre-tax) over the 11-month term of service, which is \$740 (pre-tax) per 25 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 \$6,495 education award that can be used for future education or to pay off existing school loans. See <https://www.americorps.gov/members-volunteers/segal-ameri-corps-education-award> 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

To apply for this position and to learn more about other TerraCorps service Member opportunities, please visit the following page on the TerraCorps website at <https://terracorps.org/member-position-listing/>.

Note: A complete Member application includes a resume and two professional or academic references that you will upload as part of your application.

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 in May 2022. Position offers and acceptances will be made on a rolling basis. The program aims to fill all positions by mid-July, but Service Sites will continue interviews as needed until all positions are filled. For questions about TerraCorps please email spollock@terracorps.org.

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: <https://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-funded program contingent upon renewal of federal funding from the AmeriCorps federal agency. TerraCorps is also supported in part by the Massachusetts Service Alliance in MA and Serve RI in Rhode Island.