Organization Information

GrowNYC is a 50-year-old environmental nonprofit organization - helping more than 3 million New Yorkers by providing essential services and taking action to make NYC a livable city, one where every person can enjoy a healthier, more sustainable life. GrowNYC Programs include:

- Our network of Greenmarkets, Farmstands, Fresh Food Box sites, and the work of GrowNYC Wholesale ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the freshest, healthiest local food.
- We blanket the five boroughs with resources like food scrap collection to make waste reduction, recycling, and composting easy for all.
- We build and support community and school gardens through volunteer days, technical assistance, training, grants and more.
- We provide 70,000 children each year with programs that provide meaningful interactions with the natural environment.

About GrowNYC’s Compost Program

In 2011, the GrowNYC Compost Program began collecting food scraps for composting at several Greenmarkets, and expanded over the years to operate 76 food scrap drop-off locations (FSDOs) throughout NYC, diverting over 30 tons of food scraps from landfills each week. The program has been paused since March, 2020 due to funding cuts related to COVID-19, but will begin re-opening with partially restored funding from the NYC Council starting September, 2020.

Manhattan Compost Coordinator Position

Compost Coordinators are responsible for collecting food scraps and conducting outreach each week at their assigned food scrap drop-off site(s). They promote food-scrap diversion for composting as an alternative to conventional waste disposal and educate NYC residents on a wide variety of waste reduction and landfill diversion topics.

Compost Coordinator Responsibilities

- Arrive at food scrap drop-off site thirty minutes before open hours begin to receive supply delivery
- Set up and prepare food scrap collection bins and promotional materials
- Collect food scraps from residents during open hours
- Follow and enforce rules and regulations, especially as they pertain to social distancing, wearing masks, and sanitizing surfaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Conduct local outreach and contribute to GrowNYC social media to promote food scrap composting to the general public
- Record information during collection hours and submit electronic reports on time
- Understand what can and cannot be composted and communicate that knowledge with participants
Answer a range of questions about waste reduction, composting, recycling, and GrowNYC programs
Promote and answer questions regarding DSNY Zero Waste initiatives
Work with partners, participants, and stakeholders (e.g. Greenmarket staff, DOT staff, NYPD, schools, community gardens, local non-profits, merchants, construction personnel, etc.)
Attend regular staff meetings
Represent GrowNYC Zero Waste Programs

Physical Requirements
- Work outdoors, year-round, sometimes in extreme temperatures, and in a potentially noisy environment
- Stand for lengthy periods of time (between 4-9 hours/day)
- Ability to lift heavy bins and supplies, up to 50 pounds

Ideal Qualifications
- Early-riser who enjoys working outdoors in all weather conditions
- Passionate about composting, recycling, and waste reduction
- Experience in community outreach and/or education
- Enjoys talking with people of all backgrounds
- Strong communication skills, both written and verbal
- Experience interacting with the public and handling opposing viewpoints with a calm demeanor
- Takes initiative and excels at both independent and partnered work
- Creative problem-solver, able to troubleshoot and make quick, often on-the-spot decisions
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office and Google Documents
- Familiarity with and dedication to working in diverse NYC neighborhoods
- Interest in food waste and/or related issues – food systems, waste reduction, urban planning, pollution, environmental justice, environmental stewardship, gardening, farming, etc.
- Fluency in multiple languages (especially, but not limited to, Spanish) a big plus

Schedule
Saturday and Sunday shifts available at Manhattan Greenmarket Food Scrap Drop-off sites, with regular weekly schedules ranging from 5 to 15 hours per week.

Compensation
This position is a non-exempt variable hourly position. It pays $17 per hour plus an additional $3 per hour for work done in the field effective through December 31, 2020 and includes only statutory benefits.

GrowNYC/Greenmarket is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer and hires without regard to race, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation or physical disability.