



TEEN URBAN FORESTER INTERNSHIP

Through in depth encounters with nearby nature, Canopy sparks youths' curiosity and inspires a new generation of environmental stewards.



Elizabeth Perez, class of 2016 graduate



Jazmin Perez, class of 2013 graduate

Teen Urban Forester (TUF) Program Overview

Canopy employs East Palo Alto high school students part-time to care for and plant trees; develop skills and knowledge associated with urban forestry; practice leadership skills and contribute positively to the Mid-Peninsula. The program gives them the chance to grow confidence in their own abilities and gain skills that will serve them well into college and beyond.

What Do TUFs Learn?

As part of the program the students learn about tree care, tree biology, and develop leadership skills. The students also participate in a board meeting and a program committee meeting to gain exposure to nonprofit management.

What Do TUFs Do?

Classroom training is enhanced with field work where the students have the opportunity to practice their skills and use the knowledge they gain. TUFs lead volunteers, plant and care for trees, teach in the classroom, help at events, and deliver an urban forestry project upon completion of the program.

"Leading groups and volunteers, I've gained confidence and learned a sense of responsibility."

-Jazmin Perez, class of 2013 graduate

TUF BENEFITS

- 6 school year & 6 summer positions
- 400+ hours of hands-on work
- 24+ hours of training and curriculum
- 96% of time spent outdoors
- Academic year meets once a week plus a few Saturdays per month
- Summer meets 3 days a week for 10 weeks



Jesus Lopez, class of 2015 graduate, speaking at the Willow Oaks Elementary planting that he helped to organize

For more information or to register, email: info@canopy.org
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Trees provide powerful opportunities for nature-based learning.



"Our students are acquiring on-the-job life skills with Canopy. They are learning to care for the environment where they live and to be leaders in their community. It would be fantastic if more students could participate."

*-Chris Bischof, Principal
Eastside College Preparatory School*

Sample TUF Curriculum

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| 1. Intro to Canopy: | Canopy's mission, history, locations served, programs, plantings, partners, and initiatives. |
| 2. Planting Leader Training: | Proper steps to tree planting so TUFs can act as planting leaders at events. |
| 3. Pruning Training: | Basic structural tree pruning theory and address some tree biology. Under guidance, TUFs practice in the field. |
| 4. Tree ID & Tree Walks: | Tree identification inside the class room and outdoors to practice using identification skills. |
| 5. Tree Biology: | Biology and structure of trees, TUFs will be able to name and describe functions of tree parts. |
| 6. Benefits of Trees: | Benefits of urban trees, TUFs practice debating, and participate in activities involving real-life scenarios. |
| 7. Leadership Skills: | Traits of good leaders, and reflect on personal leadership styles and qualities that will help them be good leaders. |



TUFs coaching elementary school students at an Arbor Day Festival tree planting

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