Join our team!

Teen Urban Foresters

Fast Facts

- 16 intern positions for fall session
- 75+ hours of hands-on work
- 25+ hours of training and project
- 70% time spent outdoors
- Fall session meets 1 day per week + optional Saturday day from late September through mid-December

Program Overview

Canopy offers paid internships to local high-school students to participate in every facet of Canopy’s tree planting and tree care programs. Beyond gaining work experience, the Teen Urban Foresters (TUFs) work together to build local pride and contribute to the economic and civic renewal of their community by bringing the life giving benefits of trees to schools, parks, and neighborhoods.

What do TUFs learn?

TUFs complete a series of training sessions that cover a range of topics: tree planting, tree identification, the benefits of urban trees, and young tree pruning. They also complete hands-on training sessions in leading volunteers, developing their personal leadership style, and public speaking. Canopy provides enrichment opportunities for TUFs to learn about the environmental field by visiting peer organizations and working alongside professionals and community leaders.

What do TUFs do?

Training experiences are complemented by field work where TUFs utilize their knowledge and practice their skills. Field work includes leading volunteers at tree planting and tree care events, and caring for young trees by watering, mulching, pruning, and adjusting stakes. The TUFs participate in community outreach for Canopy events, engage residents, and teach peers about the importance of trees in the urban environment.

For more information or to apply email: jack@canopy.org
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Summer Session: September 26 - December 14, 2019

What is a typical month like during the fall?

Team 1: Thursday | Team 2: Friday

- Tree care (including weeding, mulching, and watering) trees in East Palo Alto.
- Work on a Project to revitalize a part of EPA
- Prepare tools and help with logistics for a planting day
- Write a blog post about your experience at a recent Canopy event.

Saturdays: First Come First Serve

- Lead volunteers at plantings in EPA, South Palo Alto, and Mountain View
- Lead volunteers at a tree care event in East Palo Alto.
- Work with volunteers at a tree care work day to prune young trees in Palo Alto.

“One thing I learned was that the number of people who care about trees and the environment is bigger than I anticipated. I also learned more about being a leader; the role of a leader is not to have other people follow you, but to create more leaders.”

— Alex Quintanar, Class of 2017

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