



WHO TO KNOW: RESOURCES TO ADVANCE YOUR GROUP

Discover Resources

Looking for resources to help your group? We've got some great news: you don't have to look very far. Successful organizations and community groups often reach their goals by fine-tuning their "resource radar" and recognizing the value of places, people, and things around them every day. Resources are found everywhere and through effective networking you can take advantage of their benefits. And don't forget that you're a resource too! You just may be that bit of help that someone else is looking for.

resource

a place or thing that provides something useful
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Why Network?

1. Create mutually beneficial relationships

Think of everyone as a potential resource, and remember that you also have valuable information to share.

2. Build connections

One connection could mean opening the door to all of their connections.

3. Raise your profile

You are doing something wonderful, get recognized for it! By actively pursuing networking, you are increasing visibility for you and your group.

4. Make a friend

Networking is not all about work. Think of it as an opportunity to connect with like minded people, many of whom will understand what your struggles are, be supportive during times of hardship, and celebrate your successes.

networking

the exchange of information or services among individuals, groups, or institutions; specifically: the cultivation of productive relationships for employment or business.
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Anatomy of a Pitch

1. What your park group does
2. What makes your group, park or community unique
3. What resources your group is seeking
4. What your group can offer

Questions to Ask Your New Contact

1. What brought you here today?
2. What do you love most about what you do?
3. What advice do you have for a group like mine?
4. What's keeping you busy these days?

Tips

- Practice your pitch
- Carry business cards
- Talk to strangers
- Ask questions, even if you think you know the answer
- Set goals and timelines for speaking with others



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PartnershipsforParks



WHO TO KNOW: RESOURCES TO ADVANCE YOUR GROUP

Resources: Who's Here Today

Partnerships for Parks - People Make Parks

Le'alani S. Boykin, Technical Assistance Manager for
Community Visioning & Planning

New Yorkers for Parks

Dora Armenta, Community Outreach Coordinator

NYC Parks

Portia Dyrenforth, Park Administrator

Citizens Committee

Katie Grassle, Program and Volunteer Coordinator

Lawyers Alliance for New York

Kelsey Ripper, Staff Attorney

ioby

Delbert Ferguson, Leader Action Strategist

New York Restoration Project

Charlie Reynoso, Regional Engagement Manager, Bronx
& Manhattan

Partnerships for Parks - Partnerships Academy

Leah Worrell, Technical Assistance Manager for Group &
Leadership Development

Notes:



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RESOURCE GUIDE

Resource:	What we offer:
<p>Partnerships for Parks is the public-private program that supports and champions a growing network of leaders caring and advocating for neighborhood parks and green spaces. We equip people, organizations and government with the skills and tools they need to transform these spaces into dynamic community assets.</p> <p>www.partnershipsforparks.org 212-360-1310</p>	<p>PfP offers a multitude of services and resources to community park groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnerships Academy Free training program that supports community-based park groups and individual volunteers to achieve success.• People Make Parks A joint project of Hester Street Collaborative and Partnerships for Parks to help New Yorkers participate in the design of their parks.• Grants and Resources Offers resources to community groups working in New York City parks to strengthen their outreach, membership, and program-planning capacity through small grants; publications and website production services; trainings; and fiscal sponsorship.• It's My Park Program Engages over 400 groups annually in hands-on service projects and events throughout the five boroughs.
<p>New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P) is a citywide independent organization championing quality parks and open spaces for all New Yorkers in all neighborhoods.</p> <p>www.ny4p.org ny4p@ny4p.org 212-838-9410</p>	<p>NY4P is a research and advocacy based organization that provides community members and park advocates with comprehensive data to make a case for their park needs. NY4P publications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocacy Guide• Report Card on Large Parks• Report Card on Beaches• District Profiles• Open Space Index
<p>New York Restoration Project (NYRP) carries out founder Bette Midler's dream of a cleaner, more beautiful New York City by restoring, developing, and revitalizing underserved parks, community gardens, and open space in all five boroughs. We invest in communities by providing ongoing maintenance and enriching educational and public programming because we believe that every individual has the right to a beautiful neighborhood and the responsibility for contributing to its care. We partner with local community organizations and stakeholders to host and cross promote free outdoor activities to engage as many residents as possible in Parks and Gardens across NYC.</p> <p>www.nyrp.org info@nyrp.org https://www.facebook.com/nyrpgreen</p>	<p>NYRP provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshops NYRP hosts free workshops that teach New Yorkers about tree care, urban ecology, composting, sustainable horticulture, and native plant identification through spring, summer and fall.• Gardens For The City Program NYRP offers in-kind labor and materials to community members interested in revitalizing public green space in underserved neighborhoods. We provide building materials, support in construction, horticulture, forestry and environmental education, based on each garden's needs.
<p>Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, strengthen urban health, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers.</p> <p>www.lawyersalliance.org 212-219-1800 212-219-1800 ext. 224 (Resource Call Hotline)</p>	<p>Lawyers Alliance's services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct Legal Representation Provides pro bono legal advice on a full range of business and transactional issues. We assist with corporate structure (i.e. incorporation and bylaws), tax and tax exemption, real-estate, regulatory compliance, employment, intellectual property and other business law issues.• A Resource Call Hotline Staff attorneys provide general information about legal questions of importance to nonprofit organizations. The Resource Call Hotline is available to clients and non-clients.• Educational Programming Workshops and print publications on a broad range of legal topics relevant to nonprofit organizations.
<p>The NYC Compost Project, created by the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) in 1993, works to rebuild NYC's soils by providing New Yorkers with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to make and use compost locally.</p> <p>www.nyc.gov/compostproject</p>	<p>NYC Compost Project programs are implemented by DSNY-funded teams at seven host organizations, including Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Build It Green!NYC, Earth Matter NY, Lower East Side Ecology Center, Queens Botanical Garden, Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden, and The New York Botanical Garden.</p>
<p>Citizens Committee's mission is simple: to help New Yorkers--especially in low-income areas--come together and improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.</p> <p>Arif Ullah aullah@citizensnyc.org 212-822-9580</p> <p>Tehmina Brohi tbrohi@citizensnyc.org 212-822-9563</p> <p>Sabine Bernards sbernards@citizensnyc.org 212-822-9578</p> <p>Imani Brown ibrown@citizensnyc.org 212-822-9567</p>	<p>Citizens Committee offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Micro Grants Awards grants of up to \$3,000 for resident-led volunteer groups to work on self-determined community and school improvement projects.• Project Planning Assistance Offers personalized community improvement project support by working with core members of your group to develop a mission statement and brainstorm ways to engage new members.• Equipment Loan Library Offers tents, cameras, projectors, and other items for community groups to borrow.• Workshops Facilitates free workshops to build the capacity of community groups. These interactive workshops range from the basics of community organizing and navigating city government to how to build a rain harvesting system and good gardening practices.
<p>Hester Street Collaborative (HSC) is a participatory community planning, design and development organization focused on the equitable, sustainable and resilient development of low income communities throughout New York City. We do this through a hands-on approach that combines design, education, and advocacy.</p> <p>www.hesterstreet.org www.peoplemakeparks.org Dylan@hesterstreet.org</p>	<p>HSC offers technical assistance and capacity building to community based organizations, private firms and government agencies around land use processes, neighborhood planning and design, and public and private development projects. Together with Partnerships for Parks, HSC developed the People Make Parks toolkit, a resource for community groups throughout New York City to participate in park design.</p>

<p>ioby helps neighbors grow and implement great ideas one block at a time. Our online crowd-resourcing platform connects leaders with funding and support to make our neighborhoods safer, greener, more livable and more fun. ioby believes that it should be easy to make meaningful change “in our backyards” - the positive opposite of NIMBY.</p> <p>www.ioby.org/idea hello@ioby.org</p>	<p>ioby offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online platform for raising funds, finding volunteers, and getting the word out. • Grassroots fundraising trainings and individual coaching and support to ensure the success of project leaders. • Fiscal sponsorship. • Matching funds for eligible projects. • Resources such as how-to guides on various topics.
<p>GrowNYC provides the free tools and services residents need to make our city clean, green and sustainable. 212-788-7900 212-788-7913 (fax)</p>	<p>Nonprofit GrowNYC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides environmental and recycling education for children and adults. • Builds and maintains community gardens. • Operates farmers markets throughout the city, including the world famous Union Square Greenmarket
<p>The mission of the Parks Stewardship Team is to engage, educate and empower individual volunteers and groups in caring for New York City’s natural assets - the street and forest trees, coastal and freshwater wetlands, grasslands and meadows, entrance gardens and green streets, bioswales and green roofs – to maximize their benefits and promote their value within and outside of the urban ecosystem.</p> <p>http://www.milliontreesnyc.org http://www.nycgovparks.org</p>	<p>Parks Stewardship Team fosters community awareness and promotes local engagement, providing an avenue for the public to contribute to critical ongoing management of Parks natural assets on a sustained basis.</p>
<p>The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a bi-state coalition of over 800 community and recreational groups, educational institutions, businesses, and other stakeholders committed to restoring and revitalizing the New York and New Jersey waterways.</p> <p>www.waterfrontalliance.org info@waterfrontalliance.org</p>	<p>The MWA offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines program A scorecard and advocacy tool for all waterfront stakeholders to promote access, resiliency, and ecology within all types of projects.
<p>NYC Service promotes volunteerism, engages New Yorkers in service, builds volunteer capacity and mobilizes the power of volunteers to impact NYC’s greatest needs.</p> <p>www.nyc.gov/service nycservice@cityhall.nyc.gov 212-788-7550</p>	<p>NYC Service provides volunteer recruitment and management resources to non-profits and an easy to use volunteer opportunity search engine for individual volunteers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Recruitment Assistance Website promotion and social media promotion. (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) • “Great Volunteer Management System” Book Best practices in volunteer management. • NYC Civic Corps Program The NYC Civic Corps, an AmeriCorps program run by NYC Service, unites a diverse group of professionals to serve full-time with partner organizations, working to increase organizational capacity to engage volunteers, build sustainable volunteer initiatives, and directly serve community members. • Non-profit Capacity Building and Board Development Leadership Workshops Identifies and supports board models to include adults and teens in outreach, recruitment and placement for nonprofits and City Agencies.
<p>Central Park Conservancy’s Institute for Urban Parks is the educational arm of the Conservancy. The Institute teaches park users and managers to care for urban parks everywhere. The Institute for Urban Parks shares the Conservancy’s experience to teach people about managing and making good use of urban parks.</p> <p>http://centralparknyc.org/institute institute@centralparknyc.org 212.310.6678</p> <p>Maura Lout, Director, Center for Urban Park Management, mlout@centralparknyc.org 212.776.1065,</p>	<p>The Institute for Urban Parks provides programs and resources for urban park professionals in New York City, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct assistance and advice • Informal talks and seminars • Formal training • On-site teaching and support • Best practice resources
<p>The Urban Park Rangers’ mission is to connect New Yorkers to the natural world through environmental education, outdoor recreation, wildlife management, and active conservation.</p> <p>www.nycgovparks.org/programs/rangers Bronx, Van Cortlandt Park: 718-548-0912; Pelham Bay Park: 718-319-7258 Brooklyn, Salt Marsh Nature Center 718-421-2021 Manhattan, Belvedere Castle 212-628-2345 Queens, Fort Totten Visitor Center 718-352-1769 Staten Island, Blue Heron Nature Center 718-967-3542</p>	<p>The Urban Park Rangers lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Classroom Program Groups can schedule private outdoor inquiry based field trips. These are fee based programs, and are scheduled during the week year round. • Weekend Adventures Free public programs on the weekends. Community Groups can also make requests for Rangers to lead programs in their nearby parks, and Urban Park Rangers will do their best to accommodate or arrange for a compromise. • Ranger Conservation Corps Program for high school students to earn community service hours and get involved in their parks.
<p>Founded in 1978, GreenThumb helps local residents transform vacant properties into attractive green spaces. GreenThumb provides programming, technical assistance and material support to over 600 community gardens and over 500 school gardens in New York City. Workshops, which are the access point for supplies, are held every month of the year, covering gardening basics to more advanced farming and community organizing topics.</p> <p>http://www.greenthumbnyc.org/ Follow us on Facebook or Twitter</p>	<p>GreenThumb offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Resources To registered garden groups including both school and community gardens. (e.g. tools, lumber soil, etc.) • Technical Assistance To registered garden groups from design assistance, to leveling space to help create a garden, to repairing fencing and sidewalks. • Educational Programming Through workshops as well as resources to help put the information learned into practice. • Administrative Assistance and Outreach Help gardens through registration and licensing and helping garden groups grow. • Communications Spreading the word on events in the gardens and providing volunteers and groups with opportunities to participate in their local gardens. • Connections To any one of over 75 greening partners in our network to provide specialized or localized assistance.