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WHO TAKES CARE OF OUR PARKS?



The City Cleans Our Parks

Parks in New York City are cleaned by NYC Parks employees as often as it takes, and for as long as it takes, to make each park clean and safe for the public. Some parks might only take one hour to reach NYC Parks' standard. Other parks may take four hours to get to the same standard. How often parks are cleaned and how long it takes to clean them depends on how large the park is, what facilities it has, and how many people use it. Not all parks need the same level of maintenance.

Parks are grouped together into *park districts*, which are about the same as community boards. One or more park districts make a *sector*, which shares resources for everyday park maintenance. Some very large parks are sectors on their own, and have their own Park Manager. Each park district has a District Manager in charge of all of the parks in that district.



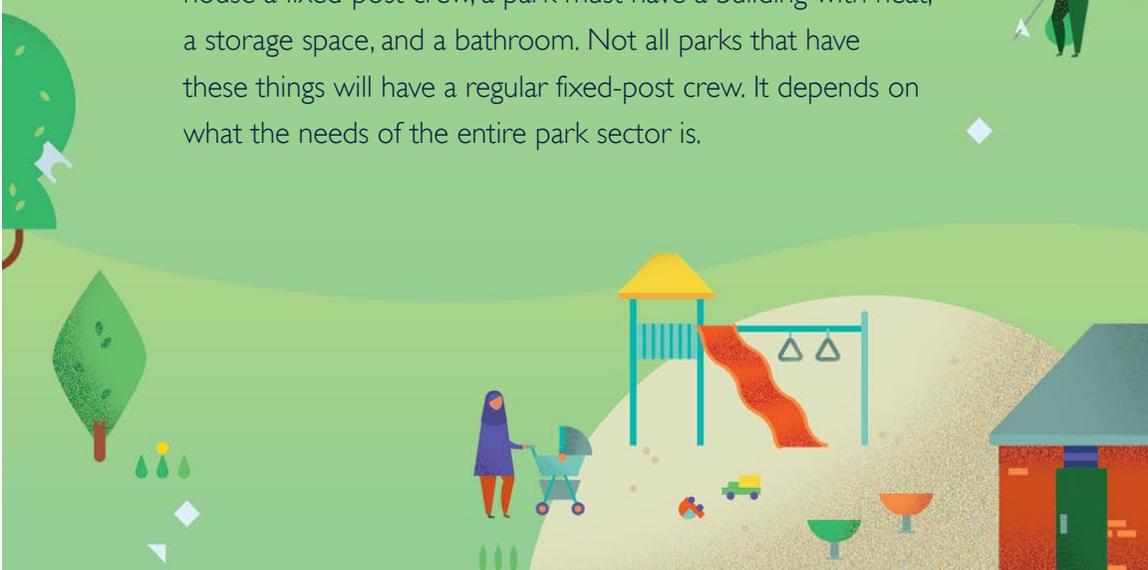


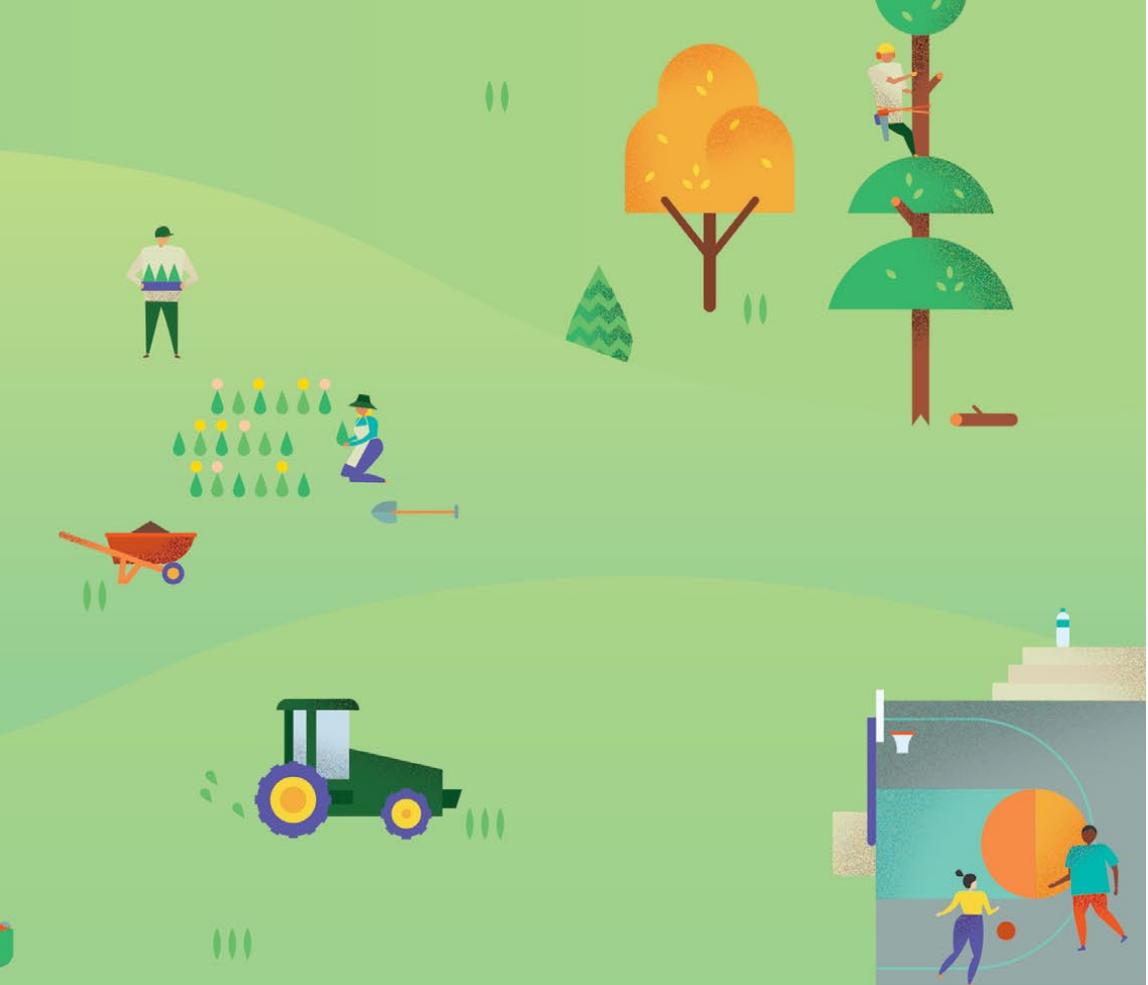
The City's Park Workers

Park maintenance staff, like City Park Workers and Job Training Program participants, do day-to-day tasks to keep the parks clean. These tasks may include picking up garbage, cleaning bathrooms, plowing snow, and making basic repairs and upkeep.

Some parks are cleaned by a *mobile crew* of maintenance staff. Mobile crews work to keep several parks in the same sector clean.

Popular parks like playgrounds may be cleaned by a *fixed-post maintenance crew*. A fixed-post crew is assigned to a single park, or a few parks that are very close to each other. These parks have the same staff cleaning them day in and day out. To house a fixed-post crew, a park must have a building with heat, a storage space, and a bathroom. Not all parks that have these things will have a regular fixed-post crew. It depends on what the needs of the entire park sector is.





Special Park Jobs

Some maintenance work is done by more specialized staff who care for parks throughout the entire borough. Skilled staff who use heavy, large equipment like full-size tractors do work for the entire borough. So do some highly trained staff like foresters and horticulturists, who care for the trees and plants in parks.





Public-Private Partnerships

Some parks are maintained by volunteers or staff from a nonprofit or conservancy organization. These groups partner with the City and have the ability to raise money privately to help add more maintenance attention to the park.

Volunteers

Some parks are also helped by a group of neighborhood volunteers working together as a “Friends of the Park” group. They’re supported by Partnerships for Parks, NYC Parks’ stewardship group, which helps them learn and grow. They host events like park clean-ups, plantings, or arts, sports, and music programs. Community members on their own also volunteer to help make their park better. Friends groups and individuals both help keep parks clean and maintained by raising their voice for more money in the NYC Parks budget.





What You Can Do

CALL 311

If you see something in your park that needs to be cleaned or maintained, call 311 or use the 311 app on your smartphone

CONNECT WITH YOUR PARK OR DISTRICT MANAGER

Get in touch through Partnerships for Parks
www.partnershipsforparks.org | 212.360.1310

CONTACT NEW YORKERS FOR PARKS

NY4P is your resource for parks data, research, and advocacy
www.ny4p.org | @ny4p | 212.838.9410

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT NYC PARKS

New York City's Department of Parks and Recreation
www.nycparks.gov



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