



## TERRACORPS

**TerraCorps**, is an innovative national service program helping communities conserve and secure land for the health and well-being of people and nature. Using the AmeriCorps national service model, TerraCorps prepares and mobilizes emerging leaders to help strengthen community-based nonprofits working to meet these goals.

This year's TerraCorps program will support up to forty-eight full-time AmeriCorps Members, serving in one of five positions: Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), Regional Collaboration Coordinator (RCC), Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), Youth Education Coordinator (YEC), or Urban Agriculture Coordinator (UAC). Members will serve in full-time, 11-month terms (August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019-July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020) in which they complete at least 1,700 hours of service with one of our partner organizations. Members receive a living allowance, education award, and additional AmeriCorps benefits (see full list at end of announcement).

Sudbury Valley Trustees will host a Regional Collaboration Coordinator for the 2019-20 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at [terracorps.org](http://terracorps.org).

### **2019 Regional Collaboration Coordinator with Sudbury Valley Trustees**

#### **Sudbury Valley Trustees**

18 Wolbach Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776  
svtweb.org

Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) is a regional land trust that conserves land and protects wildlife habitat in the Concord, Assabet, and Sudbury river basin for the benefit of present and future generations. We care for some of this region's most important forests, wetlands, and grasslands—natural areas that support wildlife habitat, working farms, and recreational trails. As of 2018, SVT cares for more than 4,800 acres on 89 reservations and 75 Conservation Restrictions and maintains more than 55 miles of trails. We collaborate with numerous partner organizations, and our work is supported by 2,900 members and 200 volunteers.

Our headquarters is located in an old farmhouse on a lovely 53-acre property with views of field and forests. Our service area transitions from the more urban/suburban Metropolitan Boston fringes to the more rural/suburban central Massachusetts area. In spite of being located near a major metropolitan center, we have an incredible abundance of open space and conservation lands, including two national wildlife refuges and a Wild & Scenic River corridor.

**Regional Collaboration Coordinators (RCC)** build the long-term capacity of their Service Sites by assessing community needs related to land conservation and land access and then organizing collaborative community projects to help meet these needs. They convene and coordinate municipal boards, all-volunteer local land trusts, planning agencies, academic institutions, nonprofits, government agencies, neighborhood groups, community housing associations, and local businesses to build regional networks, and organize collaborative cross-sector working groups to initiate new projects around community needs. By educating landowners, farmers, and community groups and organizing multi-stakeholder projects that increase access to funding, RCCs empower diverse people to create healthy, vibrant communities.

TerraCorps members engage with their supervisors to develop and carry out three or more capacity building projects over the course of the service year. Some of these projects will involve recruiting, training, and/or managing community volunteers. Sudbury Valley Trustees has proposed the following potential projects for their Regional Collaboration Coordinator:

- 1) Coordinate a series of workshops aimed primarily at priority landowners in a particular town, but which are open to the general public, emphasizing a community-based approach to conservation. Workshops would be spread out throughout the year, and will focus on different land management and/or land conservation techniques.
- 2) Other projects might include organizing SVT's annual legislative breakfast, and researching relevant legislation and pending legislation; organizing workshops, such as conservation options for landowners; and providing general assistance for land protection projects.

#### Required AmeriCorps Qualifications

- A US citizen, US national, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- At least 18 years old
- A minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- No more than three previous terms as an AmeriCorps member
- Pass a criminal history background check, including an FBI check

#### Desired Qualifications

- Strong writing and verbal communication skills as well as presentation and facilitation skills
- Able to serve both independently and as a member of a team
- Comfort navigating computer software programs (Microsoft Office Suite, ArcGIS a plus.)
- Training and experience pertinent to the Regional Collaboration Coordinator position and projects listed above
- Experience training and educating community members and volunteers
- Experience in local government and or civic organizations as well as a strong interest in serving with municipalities on sustainable land use projects
- Experience coordinating events
- Experience developing public informational materials

For questions about Sudbury Valley's service positions, contact Christa Collins at [ccollins@svtweb.org](mailto:ccollins@svtweb.org)

## **AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements**

This year's TerraCorps members will serve from August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019-July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. All members are expected to serve full-time, commit to serve for the entire 11-month term, and complete at least 1,700 hours of service, including time spent in trainings and service with the full TerraCorps team. Weekly service averages 38 hours and commonly includes some night and/or weekend activities.

AmeriCorps programs provide equal opportunities. TerraCorps will recruit and select persons in all positions to ensure a diverse and inclusive climate without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, color, political affiliation, creed, national origin, marital status, or any other status as protected by federal, state, and local laws. We encourage applications from individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service upon request.

## **Member Compensation and Benefits**

- TerraCorps members will receive a living allowance of up to \$14,600 (pre-tax) over the 11-month term of service, which is \$608.33 (pre-tax) per 24 biweekly pay periods.
- TerraCorps assists members in obtaining health insurance coverage. Reimbursement of costs may be available.
- Childcare assistance may be provided in cases of financial need.
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps members receive a taxable \$6,095 education award that can be used for future education or to pay off existing school loans. See [nationalservice.gov/resources/edaward](https://nationalservice.gov/resources/edaward) for info and restrictions.
- TerraCorps members are eligible for forbearance of most federally-guaranteed student loans, as well as payment of interest accrued during service.
- TerraCorps members will receive mentorship, training, and career development opportunities while serving directly with community-based nonprofits.
- TerraCorps members experience the personal rewards of national service and community engagement.

**Note:** TerraCorps members are responsible for their own housing and must have access to reliable transportation.

## **How to Apply**

2019-2020 Service Site organizations, service positions, and application procedures are described at [terracorps.org](https://terracorps.org).

A complete member application includes a 1-page cover letter, a resume, three references, and an application form. Member application and detailed instructions can be found at <https://terracorps.org/become-a-member/>.

Member applications will be available for viewing by all our service sites. Do not send applications directly to a service site.

We strongly encourage interested individuals to apply as soon as possible. Position offers and acceptances will be made on a rolling basis. The program aims to fill all positions by late June, but Service Sites will continue interviews as needed until all positions are filled.

For questions about TerraCorps, contact Hanna Mogensen, who manages TerraCorps' recruitment process. Email [admin@terracorps.org](mailto:admin@terracorps.org) or call 978-364-9770 x2.

### **Additional Information About this Program**

**TerraCorps** We seek to create change by achieving a broader, more authentic engagement of the diverse peoples living in our communities. When we do this, resources will grow, access to land will increase, the pace of land conservation will accelerate, and whole communities will achieve more resilient futures. To learn more about TerraCorps, visit: [terracorps.org](http://terracorps.org).

**AmeriCorps** engages more than 75,000 men and women in intensive service each year through more than 15,000 nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems and also leverage their service by mobilizing volunteers to help address community needs for environmental stewardship, health, education, economic opportunity, disaster services, and support to veterans and military families. To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit [americorps.gov](http://americorps.gov).

TerraCorps is a grant program contingent upon renewal of federal funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS grants to AmeriCorps programs in Massachusetts are administered by the Massachusetts Service Alliance.

**The Massachusetts Service Alliance (MSA, [mass-service.org](http://mass-service.org))** is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as the state commission on community service and volunteerism. MSA's mission is to catalyze the innovation and growth of service and volunteerism by creating partnerships that maximize resources, expertise, capacity, and impact. TerraCorps is one of 23 AmeriCorps programs for which MSA currently administers funding and supports program implementation.