

# ACT Tree by Tree Street by Street

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## **New York City's Free Conference on Careers in Natural Resources and the Environment for Middle Schools**

Presented by: New York ReLeaf, Environmental Education Advisory Council, and Magnolia Tree Earth Center of Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Funding for Green Horizons was been supplied by Con Edison, with additional support from Bartlett Tree Expert Company.



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## Program:

- 19 stations staffed by an experienced environmental educator and a guidance counselor or teacher.
- Selected students share their learning experiences with students and adult leaders.
- Printed information is available for participants to take home.
- Lunch and snacks provided.
- Most of the activities take place outdoors.



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## Guidance Counselors and Science Teachers:

- A select group from your school can spend an exciting day at Snug Harbor and work directly with noted professionals.
- Each school is entitled to send at least four students with one guidance counselor or science teacher.



## Students:

- Learn about career opportunities in a wide variety of natural resources and environmental fields.
- Attend two different stations led by experts.
- Instead of sitting and listening to someone talk about jobs and careers, participate in hands-on activities that allow you to experience what it is like to be part of important environmental work.



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## STATIONS

### **Exploring the Secrets of Healthy Forest Soil (Soil Science)**

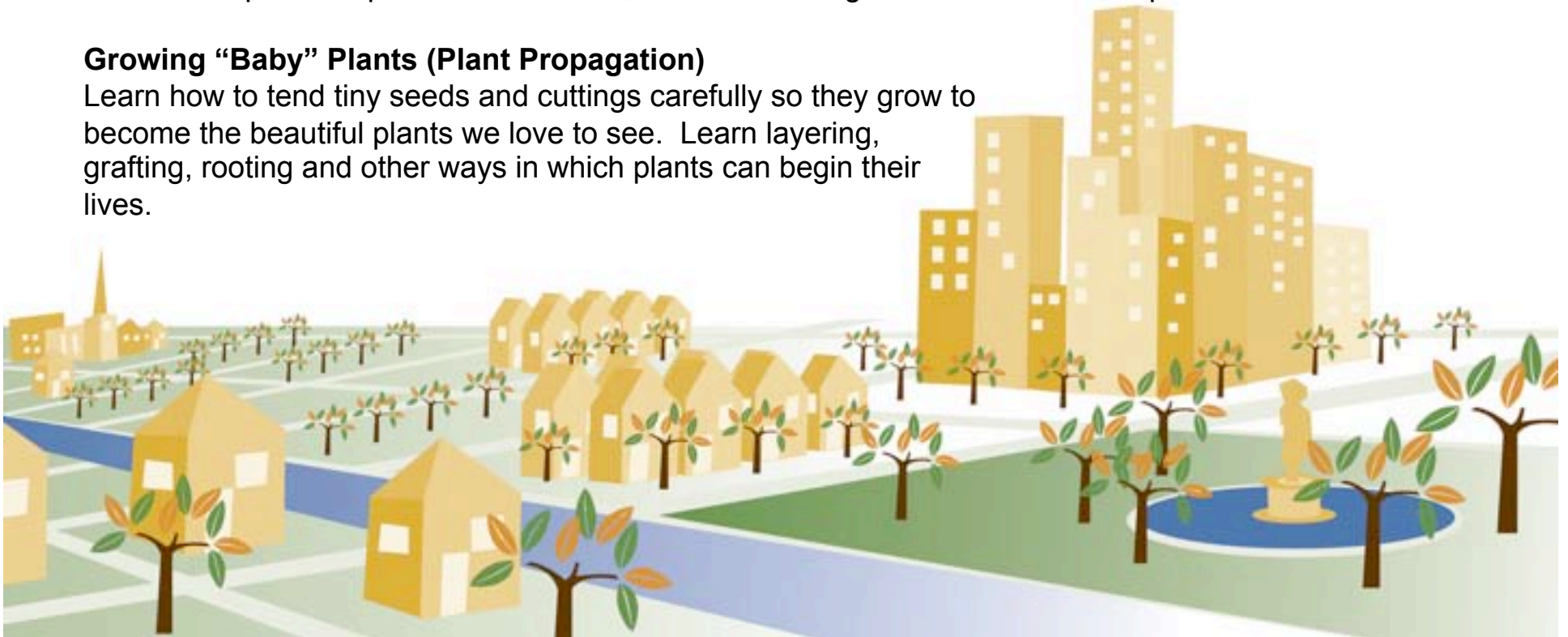
Take samples of soil layers and conduct tests and experiments to learn what's in the samples and if it's the right stuff to make for a happy, healthy forest.

### **Finding Insects of the Forest (Entomology)**

Catch different insects in the woods using a variety of collection methods. Then determine how these insects and plants depend on each other, while discussing what makes for a helpful or harmful insect.

### **Growing "Baby" Plants (Plant Propagation)**

Learn how to tend tiny seeds and cuttings carefully so they grow to become the beautiful plants we love to see. Learn layering, grafting, rooting and other ways in which plants can begin their lives.



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## STATIONS

### **Arbor Rx: CSI (Arboriculture)**

Learn how the aboveground and belowground parts of a tree function. Use the latest instruments to discover how and why trees get “sick” and die. Try the latest tools and techniques used to help trees fight off insects or diseases.

### **Lifting “Impossible” Weights by Using the Laws of Physics (Arboriculture/Engineering)**

Arborists and foresters use their knowledge of physics and their skill with ropes, pulleys, and levers to lift heavy tree trunks and limbs. Learn to use these important tools and lift big logs.

### **Climbing and Pruning Trees (Arboriculture)**

By watching experts who work as arborists, understand how and why to prune a tree. Practice using the on-rope climbing techniques while safely on the ground.



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## STATIONS

### **Creating a New Forest (Woodland Restoration)**

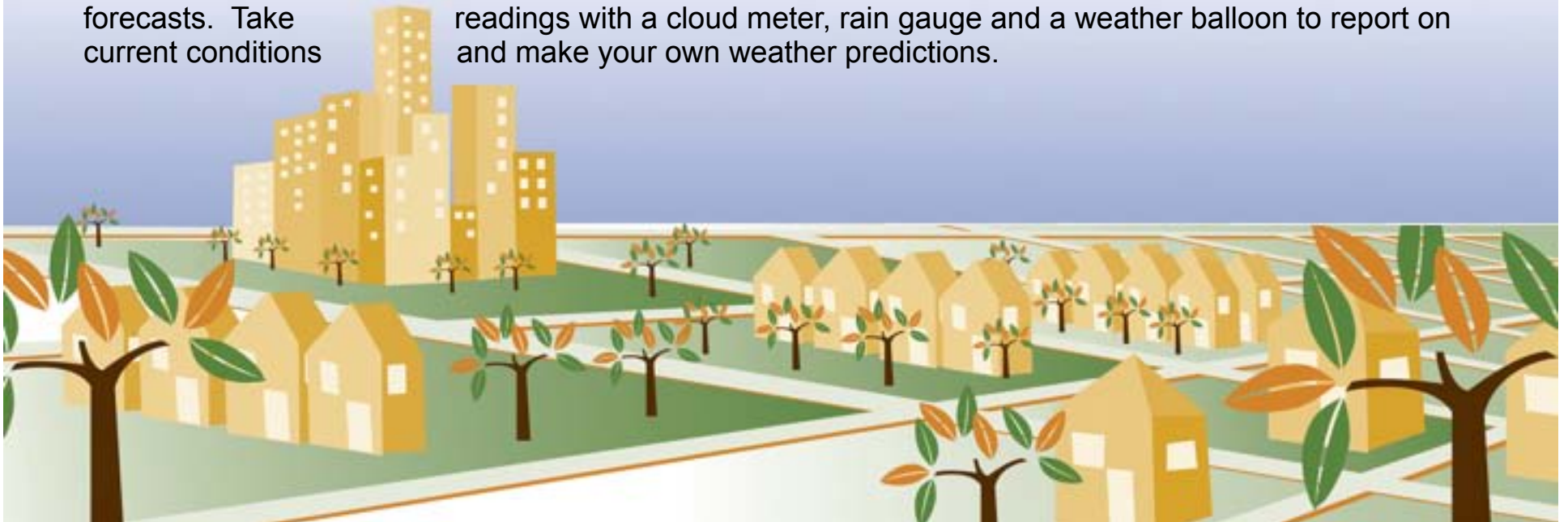
Join a Parks Department crew in creating and preserving urban forests, providing refuge for our wildlife. Learn why certain plants are a problem and why native plants are so important.

### **Teaching about Environmental Science (Environmental Education)**

Create a “mini-world” in a terrarium: take it home and watch it grow! Learn and practice exciting ways to teach others about water, air and nature’s cycle.

### **Working with Weather (Meteorology)**

Learn how the experts use sophisticated meteorological instruments to make accurate weather forecasts. Take readings with a cloud meter, rain gauge and a weather balloon to report on current conditions and make your own weather predictions.



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## STATIONS

### **Compost More, Waste Less! (Composting and Urban Recycling)**

Learn how to keep organic waste from going into the garbage by reusing it on site. Work with special spoons and magnifying glasses to inspect the action of decomposers. Construct your own compost bin!

### **Designing with Flowers (Floriculture)**

Learn how to design and construct your own flower arrangements.

### **Help Plant a Million Trees! (Silviculture)**

Learn how to inventory the trees that grow in your neighborhood.

### **Creating a Plan for**

Learn how City  
will add many

### **the Land (Landscape Architecture)**

planners are turning the closed Fresh Kills Landfill into a forested site that  
acres of open green space to Staten Island. Then become a designer.



## STATIONS

### **All About Bees! (Beekeeping, Field Biology)**

Examine a hive, try on the protective clothing beekeepers wear, and understand the importance of these tiny creatures.

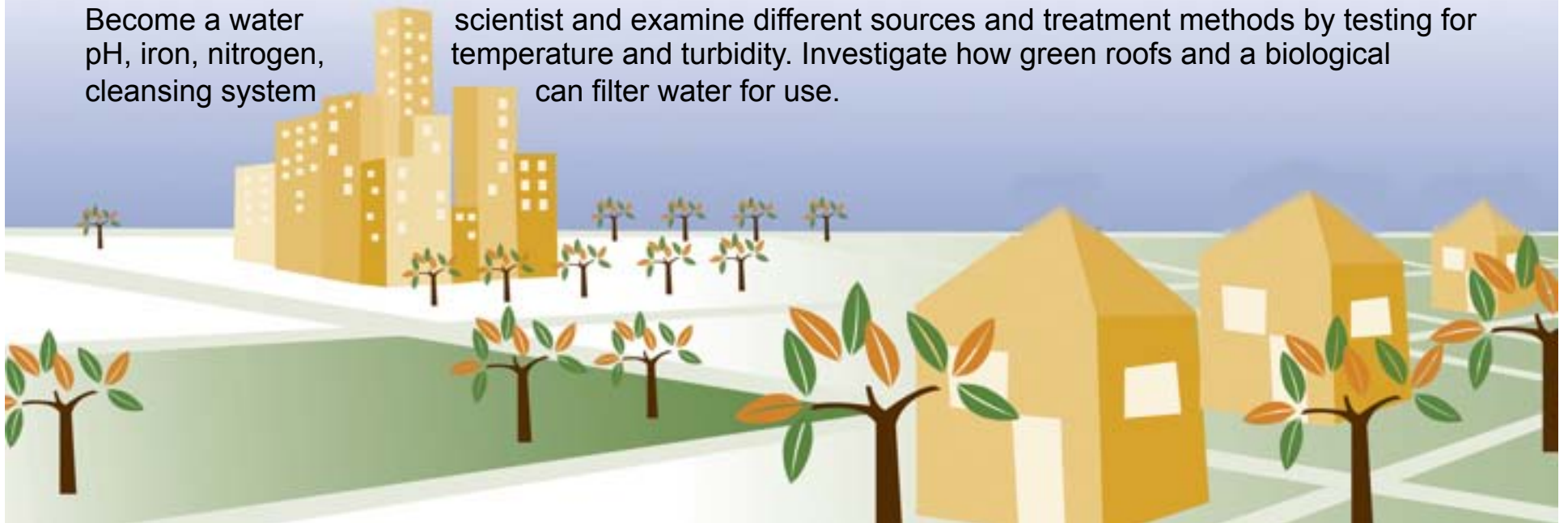
### **Investigating the Air We Breathe (Atmospheric Science)**

Learn what's in the air you're breathing. Use scientific instruments and methods to record and analyze air-quality measurements. Discover how to recognize the effects of poor air quality in your own neighborhood and help improve it.

### **Examining a Body of Water (Fresh Water Ecology)**

Become a water  
pH, iron, nitrogen,  
cleansing system

scientist and examine different sources and treatment methods by testing for temperature and turbidity. Investigate how green roofs and a biological can filter water for use.



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## STATIONS

### **America's Least Wanted at Snug Harbor! (Entomology)**

Learn why the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) is harmful to the environment and how to identify this tree-killing beetle. Watch as USDA tree climbers inspect trees for the ALB and its damage.

### **Energy from the Sun**

Learn how solar panels work and build a solar-powered car.

### **Celebrate Urban Birds! (Ornithology/Citizen Science)**

Learn to run an experiment about birds and their habitats. The data will be used to study how birds live in urban green spaces.



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