About Service TREK
Working in small groups of 8 TREKKIES and 2 TREK Leaders, Service TREK participants engage in direct service while learning about the value of community involvement, leadership, and social justice. Along the way, students develop great friendships and live and work as a team while they make the transition to life as UVM students. This summer’s TREK participants will take part in one of six different trips, all focused on a particular issue or community partner. These trips are: The Catamount Trail (doing trail maintenance on this cross-country ski trail); Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity (working on building a home); a variety of projects around Burlington with multiple community agencies as part of our “Better Burlington Crew”; a range of Vermont animal welfare organizations as part of our “Animal Rescue Crew”; doing park maintenance in a Vermont State Park; and working at multiple food security agencies and doing some gleaning of produce as part of our “Farm and Food Crew”.

About Service TREK Leaders
Service TREK (STREK) Leaders work in pairs to ensure an educational, safe, fun, and engaging introduction to UVM, the local community, and the role of community service in education. STREK Leaders coordinate group activities (from meals to reflections), work with agency staff to ensure a quality experience, and through their actions represent the best of UVM: its mission, values, curriculum, and commitment to service. STREK Leaders are trained by and work with the Assistant Director of Leadership & Civic Engagement Programs and our two Graduate Assistants.

Why Be a TREK Leader?
- Comprehensive 5-day leadership training including group management, service and social justice, and risk management/safety protocols for service trip leaders.
- A great opportunity for personal leadership development and community service, as well as getting to know the state of Vermont and introduce new students to UVM!
- Meals, snacks, and two nights of housing will be provided during training; all meals, snacks, and housing is provided during your TREK week in August.
- For TREK Leaders who are living on campus in Fall 2017, housing is provided free of charge during your TREK obligation.
- A staff t-shirt and other goodies; plus a closing BBQ for leaders and participants of all TREK programs.
- A $225 stipend for first-time leaders, and a $275 stipend for returning leaders, will be paid upon completion of TREK.

Specific Service TREK Leader Responsibilities
- Work with co-leader to help build strong group relationships and serve as a resource for the TREKKIEs.
- Serve as a liaison between UVM and the host agency(ies).
- Facilitate group discussion and activities about the value of community involvement and new student transition concerns.
- Manage program funds during TREK.
- Role model and enforce university and program policies.
Service TREK Leader Requirements

- Ability to join us full-time with minimal or no outside work or personal commitments from August 13-24 (residential students are expected to be able to move into their rooms on August 11th or 12th)
- Ability to assume a leadership role and responsibility for assigned projects and small groups.
- Commitment to service as an integral part of your UVM experience.
- Maintain a positive and flexible attitude.
- Commitment to providing a program that is free of drugs and alcohol possession and use.
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5 maintained throughout the 2016-2017 academic year.
- If selected, you will need to be certified to drive a UVM vehicle. We will help you arrange this; see criteria at www.uvm.edu/drivers.

Important Dates

- **Applications due:** Friday, March 31st at midnight on the LCE Lynx organization form.
- **Individual Interviews:** Friday, March 31st through Wednesday, April 12th. Sign up for interviews online in the application.
- **All-Leader Meeting:** date/time TBD - sometime between April 24th-28th
- **On-Campus Leader Move-In:** Friday or Saturday, August 11-12th
- **Leader Training:** August 13-18, 2017
- **TREK:** August 19-24, 2017

2017 Service TREK Sites

- **Animal Rescue Crew:** This trip is for animal lovers and will take TREKKIES to a variety of really cool animal-focused organizations and explore the Vermont animal rescue world.
- **Better Burlington Crew:** This TREK is geared at supporting local community agencies (e.g., Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf) to do tasks such as: food distribution and storage, building beautification, community clean up, and gardening.
- **Catamount Trail Crew:** This group will do trail work (e.g., clear trails, build bridges), camp out, and learn about Vermont's natural resources, wilderness areas, and environmental protection.
- **Farm and Food Crew:** TREKKIES will serve a variety of community service agencies throughout Central Vermont dedicated to supporting food security and efforts to eliminate hunger.
- **Habitat for Humanity Crew:** This group will help build on the Habitat for Humanity homebuilding sites in Vermont while learning about Habitat, the homeowners, and homelessness and poverty in Vermont.
- **State Park Crew:** This crew will work with Vermont State Parks staff to assist in the care and management of a state park. (Past projects have included trail maintenance and painting)

*Applicants to lead Catamount Trail Crew and State Park Crew must have camping experience*