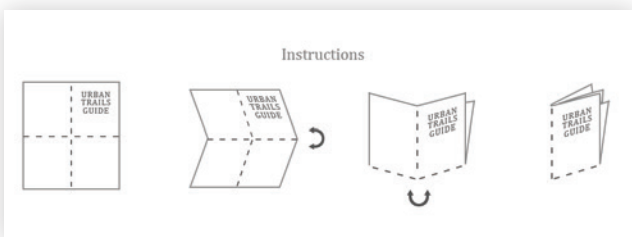


**SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of the environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.**

**It's Our Job, Every Day**

Every day SCA unites young people with hands-on environmental challenges. Every day we create future stewards of our land, healthier environments and—ultimately—a better world.

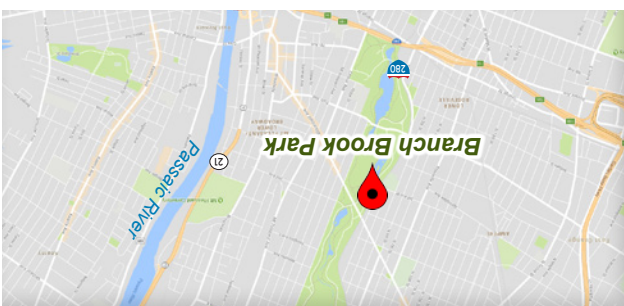
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**NEWARK, NJ**  
**Branch Brook Park**



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[www.branchbrookpark.org](http://www.branchbrookpark.org)

**EXPLORE!**



Newark Crew member Jamal Bricoe returned to SCA for his second year as a seasoned young professional. He was instrumental in helping the crew develop strategies as to how to complete projects. Jamal's positive attitude, wit, and humorous leadership kept the crew balanced and motivated as he led by example.



Branch Brook Park is the largest park in Newark, New Jersey. The Student Conservation Association's Community Crew partnered with the park and Rutgers Master Gardeners to conduct landscape maintenance projects. The nation's first county park, located in Essex County and Newark's North Ward, is home to 360 acres of meadows and forests, trails, gardens, and many recreational amenities. Branch Brook is noted for the largest collection of cherry blossom trees in the United States, with more than 4,300 trees on display during its annual Cherry Blossom Festival.

In 2017, the SCA crew assisted with mulching, weeding, and pruning of natural landscapes and gardens in the Concert Grove section of Branch Brook. Each day for two weeks, the crew removed 30 bags of weeds and clippings. The park staff educated crew members regarding the plants in the areas where SCA worked, making the experience an impactful and practical learning experience.

**INTRODUCTION**