

Conservation Job Opportunities for Youth

Resource Guide

While working on our Community Action Project for our service term with AmeriCorps, we identified a need to gather information in one place about conservation-focused volunteer opportunities for youth. To fill the need, this document was created in order to build a comprehensive list of corps programs and nonprofit organizations that provide outdoor job opportunities for high school and college students throughout the United States.

Throughout our experiences serving with various conservation corps, we have met and served with people from around the country. A recurring theme in conversations with these people has been that they wished they had known about this type of work sooner. The majority thoroughly enjoyed their experience with conservation work, and would have liked to share these opportunities with others but had no resource with which to do so. By making this guide available to current and former members of these organizations, we hope the information will spread on a grassroots level to high school and college students through peer-to-peer sharing and inclusion in career counseling resources in high schools and colleges nationwide.

Information in this resource guide was gathered from the organizations' websites; it has been edited and condensed to fit our format, and organizations should be contacted directly for the most up-to-date information as programs are subject to change.

The guide begins with a quick reference chart of all the organizations we have listed and a brief overview of program location, age and eligibility, seasons/length, whether or not the program is AmeriCorps, and compensation information. Next is a general outline of how AmeriCorps works since many of the positions are funded by AmeriCorps. Following is a directory with more detailed overviews of the organizations' relevant programs, divided by geographic region and sorted alphabetically within each region.

This guide can also be found on The Corps Network website at www.corpsnetwork.org. We hope you find it helpful—and please, pass it on!

Organization (page #)	State(s)	Ages	Eligibility	Seasons/Length	AmeriCorps	Compensation
American YouthWorks (page 8)	TX	17-28		Year-round/ varies	Yes	\$1,050/mo + Ed Award
California Conservation Corps (page 8)	CA	18-25	CA residents only (except BC program)	Year-round/ 5 months or 1 year	Yes (BC program <i>only</i>)	\$8/hr; or \$1,387/mo + Ed Award (BC prog)
Canyon Country Youth Corps (page 9)	CO, AZ, UT	16-24		Spring- Fall/ 4-12 week sessions	No	\$232-\$290/week
Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia (page 4)	WV	16-24		Year-round/ 2 months – 1 year	No	\$7.25/hr
Civic Works (page 4)	MD	15-18	Baltimore public school students <i>only</i>	Summer/ 6 weeks	No	\$7.50/hr plus end bonus
Coconino Rural Environment Corps (page 9)	AZ	15-25	HS diploma/GED (some positions)	Year-round/ varies	Yes (NACC program <i>only</i>)	\$290/week
Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa (page 6)	MN, IO	15-25		Year-round/ varies	Yes (<i>except</i> Youth Crew)	\$150-\$200/week; or \$1,155/mo+Ed Award
EarthCorps (page 6)	WA	18-25		Year-round/ 10.5 months	Yes	\$1,120/mo+Ed Award
Green Mountain Club (page 4)	VT	18+		Summer/ 3-6 months	Possible (limited #)	\$8.46/hr (base pay for crew members) + Ed Award (if eligible)
Greening Youth Foundation (page 4)	Southeast	15-25		Year-round/ varies	No	~\$250/week or \$7.25-\$13/hr
Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps (page 8)	HI	17+	HS diploma/GED (some positions)	Summer/ 6-7 weeks	Yes	Ed Award (all) +\$3,500 (leader position <i>only</i>)
Heart of Oregon Corps (page 6)	OR	16-18		Summer/ 9 weeks	Possible	\$8.50/hr + Ed Award
Maine Conservation Corps (page 5)	ME	18+	HS diploma/GED	Summer and Fall/ 3-6 months	Yes	\$260-\$445/week + Ed Award
Maryland Conservation Corps (page 5)	MD	17-25	HS diploma/GED	Year-round/ 11 months	Yes	\$1,100/mo + Ed Award
Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps (page 6)	MI	18-25	Michigan residents <i>only</i> ; HS diploma	Year-round/ varies	Yes	\$7.40/hr + Ed Award
Mile High Youth Corps (page 9)	CO	16-24	Local residents only (<i>except</i> ACLC)	Year-round/ varies	Yes	Living stipend + Ed Award

Organization (page #)	State(s)	Ages	Eligibility	Seasons/Length	AmeriCorps	Compensation
Montana Conservation Corps (page 7)	MT	15+	MT residents <i>only</i> (for MCC Expedition only); HS diploma/GED	Spring, Summer, Fall/ Varies	Yes (<i>except</i> MCC Expedition)	\$1,000-\$1,800/mo + Ed Award; none for MCC Expedition
Nevada Conservation Corps (page 10)	NV	17+	U.S Resident with HS diploma/GED	Varies by position availability/type	Yes	Varies by position type and length
Northwest Youth Corps (page 7)	OR, CA, WA, ID	14-19		Spring, Summer, Fall/ 3-6 weeks	No	Education stipend
Onondaga Earth Corps (page 5)	NY	15-21		Spring, Summer, Fall (Length Varies)	No	Varies
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (page 10)	NM, AZ, CO, UT	16-25	NM residents only (Summer Crew <i>only</i>)	Year-round/ 3, 6 months	Yes	Living stipend(varies) + Ed Award for Field Crews; \$8.50/hr for Summer Crew
Southeast Alaska Guidance Association (page 8)	AK	17-26	AK residents <i>only</i> for Youth Corps	Spring-Fall/ 4-8 months	Yes	\$1,200-\$1,300/mo + Ed Award
Southwest Conservation Corps (page 10)	CO, AZ, NM, UT	15-25		Year-round/ 4 wks – 3 months	Possible	~\$300/week + Ed Award
Student Conservation Association (page 3)	National	15+		Year-round/Varies	Yes (<i>except</i> Youth Crews)	Living stipend + Ed Award
Utah Conservation Corps (page 10)	UT, AZ	16+	U.S. Resident	Year-round/ Varies	Yes (<i>except</i> Youth Crew)	Living stipend(varies) + Ed Award for Field Crews; \$7.25/hr for Youth Corps
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (page 5)	VT	16-24	Must be 18+ if <i>not</i> a VT resident	Year-round/ Varies	No	\$326-360/week
Washington Conservation Corps (page 7)	WA	18-25	U.S. Resident	Year-round/ 1 year	Yes	\$8.67/hr + Ed Award
Western Colorado Conservation Corps (page 11)	CO	16-25	U.S. Resident if receiving AmeriCorps Ed. Award	Year-round/ Varies	Yes (ages 17+)	\$7.50/hr
Wyoming Conservation Corps (page 7)	WY	18+	U.S. Resident	Summer/ 4 months	Yes	Living stipend(varies) + Ed Award

How AmeriCorps Works:

AmeriCorps is a federally funded service program that provides service opportunities to all U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are 17 or older. AmeriCorps programs address critical, unmet needs in communities throughout the U.S. with a focus on improving literacy and education, improving health services, building affordable housing, teaching computer skills, conservation work, disaster response, and operating after-school programs. Many of the programs listed in this guide are funded by AmeriCorps through their State and National Programs. AmeriCorps also offers the AmeriCorps Vista Program which specifically fights poverty through service; and AmeriCorps NCCC, which is a full-time residential program focusing on community building and leadership. In return for their service, all AmeriCorps members receive a modest living stipend, healthcare, and a post-service education award. The amount of an education award depends upon the number of volunteer hours a program requires and this information has been included with each listing's length and compensation information as applicable. For more information visit www.AmeriCorps.gov or call 1-800-942-2677

National

The Student Conservation Association

www.thesca.org

Phone: (603) 543-1700

E-mail: admissions@thesca.org

Eligibility: Meet age requirements for specific program

Ages: National Conservation Crews 15-19; Internships and Conservation Corps 18+

Type of work: Trail construction/maintenance, native plant restoration, desert restoration, and fire management crews. In addition to crew programs, The SCA offers internship opportunities with a more scientific or interpretational focus.

Seasons: year round

Length: 3-10 months for Conservation Corps, 3-5 weeks for National Conservation Crews, and 3-12 months for Internship positions.

AmeriCorps: Yes, for conservation corps and internships.

Compensation: Living stipend (varies by program location and length)

East Coast

Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia (WV) — Youth & Development Program

<http://www.wvccc.com/ynd/>

Phone: 304-254-9196

Email

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 16-24

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, and recreation projects

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 2 months – 1 year

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: \$7.25/hr

Civic Works (MD) — Baltimore Conservation Leadership Corps (BCLC)

http://www.civicworks.com/programs/community_workforce/bclc/

Phone:

Email: info@civicworks.com

Eligibility: Baltimore public school students

Ages: 15-18

Type of work: Habitat restoration

Seasons: Summer

Length: 6 weeks

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: \$7.50/hr plus bonus

Green Mountain Club (VT) — Long Trail Patrol (LTP) and Internships

<http://www.greenmountainclub.org/page.php?id=13>

Phone: 802-244-7037 x20 (Dave Hardy)

Email: dhardy@greenmountainclub.org

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 18+

Type of work: Habitat restoration, trail work, resource conservation

Seasons: Summer

Length: 3-6 months

AmeriCorps: Possible (limited number available)

Compensation: Paid (\$8.46/hr for members) and volunteer trail crews; School credit for outdoor internships; AmeriCorps Education Award if eligible

Greening Youth Foundation (GA) — Youth Conservation Corps

www.gyfoundation.org

Phone: 404-254-4827

Email James Ezeilo: james@gyfoundation.org

Eligibility: students across the U.S.

Ages: 15-25

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 1 month (Conservation Crews), 3-12 months

(Conservation Interns), 3-12 months (Conservation Corps)

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: About \$250/week or \$7.25-\$13/hr

Maine Conservation Corps (ME) – Conservation Crews and Environmental Educator Internships

www.maine.gov/doc/parks/mcc/

Phone: 207-624-6085

E-mail corps.conservation@maine.gov

Eligibility: H.S. Diploma or GED; Bachelor's or equivalent experience for Environmental Educator

Ages: 18+

Type of work: Trail maintenance, conservation projects

Seasons: Spring, summer, fall

Length: 3-6 months (up to 10 months for environmental educators)

AmeriCorps: Yes (300, 450, 900 hours; 1700 hour option also available for environmental educators program)

Compensation: \$260-\$445/week plus AmeriCorps Education Award

Onondaga Earth Corps (NY)

www.Onondagaeearthcorps.org

Phone: 315-472-2150

E-mail Onondagaeearthcorps@gmail.org

Eligibility: meet age requirements for specific program

Ages: 15-21

Type of work: Urban forestry, storm water management, landscaping services for community members in need, community environmental outreach

Seasons: Spring, summer, fall

Length: Varies by position

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: Varies

Maryland Conservation Corps (MD)

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/mcc/>

Phone: 410-260-8193 (Tina Stevens)

Email Tina Stevens: tstevens@dnr.state.md.us

Eligibility: H.S. diploma or willing to work toward GED

Ages: 17-25

Type of work: Trail work, environmental education, habitat restoration

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 11 months

AmeriCorps: Yes (1700 hours)

Compensation: \$1,100/mo plus AmeriCorps Education Award

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VT)

<http://vycc.org>

Phone: 802-434-3969 x200

E-mail: info@vycc.org

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 16-24; If not a Vermont resident you must be 18+

Type of work: Trail maintenance and construction, habitat restoration, invasive species removal

Seasons: Year-round, most positions summer months

Length: Varies by crew type

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: Spring/Fall: \$326 – 360/week ; Summer: \$326/week

Midwest

Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa (MN, IA)

www.conservationcorps.org

Phone: 651-209-9900

Email: info@conservationcorps.org

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 15-25

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, resource conservation, wildland firefighting

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 2 months (Youth Crew); 3 months (Seasonal Trail Crew), 1 year (Trail Crew)

AmeriCorps: Yes (900, 1700 hours); No (Youth Crew)

Compensation: \$150-\$200/week (Youth Crew); \$1,155/mo plus AmeriCorps Education Award (Trail Crew Members)

Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps (MI)

http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10366_11866-83263--,00.html

Phone: 517-202-1378

Email Thomas Tucker: tuckert2@michigan.gov

Eligibility: Michigan residents only; H.S. diploma required

Ages: 18-25

Type of work: Habitat restoration, resource conservation

Seasons: Year-round

Length: Varies

AmeriCorps: Yes (300, 450, 675, 900, and 1700 hours)

Compensation: \$7.40/hr plus AmeriCorps Education Award (if eligible)

Northwest (plus AK & HI)

EarthCorps (WA)

<http://www.earthcorps.org/corps-program.php>

Phone: 206-322-9296

Email

Eligibility: Age requirements

Ages: 18-25

Type of work: Habitat restoration, trail work, resource conservation

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 10.5 months

AmeriCorps: Yes (1700 hours)

Compensation: \$1,120/mo plus AmeriCorps Ed Award

Heart of Oregon Corps (OR) — Central Oregon Youth Conservation Corps

<http://www.heartoforegon.org/coycc.htm>

Phone: 541-633-7834

Email: info@heartoforegon.org

Eligibility: U.S. resident

Ages: 16-18

Type of work: Resource conservation

Seasons: Summer

Length: 9 weeks

AmeriCorps: Possible (if eligible: 300 hours)

Compensation: \$8.50/hr plus AmeriCorps Education Award (if eligible)

Montana Conservation Corps (MT) — AmeriCorps and
MCC Expedition programs

www.mtcorps.org

Phone: 406-587-4475

E-mail mcc@mtcorps.org

Eligibility: H.S. diploma or willing to work towards GED
(AmeriCorps); Montana residents only (MCC Expedition)

Ages: 15-17 (MCC Expedition); 18+ (AmeriCorps)

Type of work: Conservation crews, crew leader positions
(AmeriCorps); Conservation crews (MCC Expedition)

Seasons: Summer (MCC Expedition and AmeriCorps
Members); Spring, summer, fall (AmeriCorps Leaders)

Length: 5 months (AmeriCorps members); 11 months
(AmeriCorps leaders); Four weeks (MCC Expedition)

AmeriCorps: Yes (except MCC Expedition)

Compensation: Volunteer (MCC Expedition); \$1,000/mo
(AmeriCorps members); \$1,800/mo (AmeriCorps leaders)

Washington Conservation Corps (WA)

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wcc/wcc_jobs.htm

Phone:

Email

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 18-25

Type of work: Restoration Crew (habitat restoration, resource
conservation); Trail Crew (trail work); Spike Crew (habitat
restoration, trail work, construction, emergency response)

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 1 year (6-mo. service term sometimes offered)

AmeriCorps: Yes (1700 hours)

Compensation: \$8.67/hr plus AmeriCorps Education Award

Northwest Youth Corps (OR, CA, WA, ID)—Youth Corps

www.nwyouthcorps.org

Phone: 541-349-5055

E-mail nyc@nwyouthcorps.org

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 14-19

Type of work: Conservation, reforestation, and recreation

Seasons: Spring, summer, fall

Length: 3-6 weeks

AmeriCorps: No

Compensation: Education stipend

Wyoming Conservation Corps (WY)

<http://www.uwyo.edu/enr/WCC/>

Phone: 307-766-6436

E-mail: wcc@uwyo.edu

Eligibility: U.S. citizen; H.S. Diploma or GED

Ages: 18+

Type of work: Conservation work on public lands

Seasons: Spring, summer

Length: 4-8 months

AmeriCorps: Yes (Members- 450 hrs; Leaders- 900 hrs)

Compensation: AmeriCorps Education Award plus \$3,250
stipend (Members) or \$7,200 stipend (Leaders)

Southeast Alaska Guidance Association (AK) — Adult Corps, Youth Corps

www.servealaska.org

Phone: 1-800-789-6172

E-mail recruiter@servealaska.org

Eligibility: Alaska Residents only for Youth Corps crews; some college required (Adult Corps)

Ages: 17-26 (Youth Corps); 18+ (Adult Corps)

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, conservation

Seasons: Spring, summer, fall

Length: 4-8 months

AmeriCorps: No: Youth Corps; Yes: Adult Corps

Compensation: \$1,300/mo (Leader) or \$1,200 (Member) plus AmeriCorps Education Award (Adult Corps)

Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps (HI) — Summer Program

www.kupuhawaii.org/hawaii-youth-conservation-corps/programs/overview/

Phone: 808-735-1221

Email: info@kupuhawaii.org

Eligibility: H.S. diploma or GED required to be a leader

Ages: 17+ (Member); 21+ (Leader)

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, resource conservation

Seasons: Summer

Length: 6-7 weeks

AmeriCorps: Yes (300 hours)

Compensation: AmeriCorps Education Award plus 3 possible school credits (Member); AmeriCorps Education Award plus \$3,500 living stipend (Leader)

Southwest

American YouthWorks (TX) — Environmental Corps

<http://www.americanyouthworks.org/green-jobs-programs/environmental-corps>

Phone: 512-415-2208

Email:

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 17-28

Type of work: Trail work, public land improvement

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 3, 6, and 11-month programs

AmeriCorps: Yes (300, 900, and 1700 hours)

Compensation: Up to \$1,050/mo, plus AmeriCorps Education Award

California Conservation Corps (CA) — CCC & Backcountry Trails Program (BC)

www.ccc.ca.gov

Phone: 1-800-952-5627 (CCC)

Email: Visit: <https://webapps.ccc.ca.gov/contactus/>

Eligibility: California residents only for CCC; none for BC

Ages: 18-25 (CCC); 18-26 (BC)

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, conservation

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 1 year (CCC); 5 months (BC)

AmeriCorps: No: CCC; Yes: BC (if eligible, 900 hours)

Compensation: \$8/hr (CCC); about \$1,387/mo plus AmeriCorps Education Award if eligible (BC)

Canyon Country Youth Corps (UT, CO, AZ)
www.fourcornersschool.org/canyon-country-youth-corps
Phone: 1-800-525-4456
Email
Eligibility: U.S. citizen
Ages: 16-24
Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, fuels reduction
Seasons: Spring, summer, fall
Length: 4 – 12 week sessions
AmeriCorps: No
Compensation: \$232/week - \$290/week

Coconino Rural Environment Corps (AZ) —Youth Conservation Corps (YCC); Northern Arizona Conservation Corps (NACC)
www.crecweb.org
Phone: 928-679-8150
Email
Eligibility: H.S. diploma or GED (NACC only)
Ages: 15-25
Type of work: Trail work, resource conservation, habitat restoration
Seasons: Year-round
Length: 7 weeks (YCC; summer); 6 – 12 months (NACC)
AmeriCorps: No: YCC; Yes: NACC (450, 900 and 1700 hours)
Compensation: \$290/week, plus AmeriCorps Education Award

Western Colorado Conservation Corps (CO)
<http://wcccpartners.org/>
Phone: (970) 241-1027
E-mail jroberts@mesapartners.org
Eligibility: U.S. citizen
Ages: 16-25
Type of work: Trail maintenance and construction, invasive species removal, habitat restoration
Seasons: Year round, most positions summer months
Length: Varies by position
AmeriCorps: Yes, for ages 17+ (450 and 900 hours)
Compensation: \$7.50/hr with opportunities for raises

Mile High Youth Corps (CO) — Land, Energy, and Water Conservation Program (Denver and Colorado Springs); AmeriCorps Leadership and Conservation Program (ACLIC-Denver), Youthbuild (Denver)
www.milehighyouthcorps.org
Phone: 303-433-1206 (Denver); 719-630-7424 (Col Spgs)
Email: info@mhyc.net, springs@mhyc.net
Eligibility: Local residents of Metro Denver and Southern Front Range Colorado preferred only except for ACLIC; H.S. diploma or GED required for every program but YouthBuild
Ages: 16-24 (Denver); 16-24 (Col Spgs); 19-24 (ACLIC)
Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, resource conservation, home energy and water conservation
Seasons: Summer and Fall (Col Spgs); Year-round (Denver - ACLIC, Energy, Water, YouthBuild)
Length: 2.5-9 months(Denver & Col Spgs); 1 year (ACLIC)
AmeriCorps: Yes (if eligible): Denver (450 hours); Col Spgs (300 and 450 hours); ACLIC (1700 hours)
Compensation: Living stipend (ACLIC: \$1,100/mo; Denver and Col Spgs dependent upon position and seniority) plus AmeriCorps Ed Award (ACLIC)

Nevada Conservation Corps (NV)

www.thegreatbasininstitute.org/programs/nevada-conservation-corps/

Phone: (775) 674-5481

E-mail

Eligibility: U.S. Resident with H.S. diploma or willing to work towards GED

Ages: 17+

Type of work: Trail maintenance, forest fuels reduction, invasive species eradication, habitat restoration

Seasons: Varies by positions available*

Length: Varies by positions available*

AmeriCorps: Yes

Compensation: Varies by position type and length

Southwest Conservation Corps (AZ, CO, NM, UT) —

Sonoran Desert Office (SD: Tucson, AZ); Four Corners Office (FC: Durango, CO); Los Valles Office (LV: Salida, CO)

www.sccorps.org

Phone: 520-884-5550(SD);970-259-8607(FC);719-539-2438(LV)

Email:

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 15-25

Type of work: Trail work, fuels reduction, habitat restoration

Seasons: Year-round (depending on which office)

Length: 4 weeks – 3 months

AmeriCorps: Possible

Compensation: About \$300/week, plus AmeriCorps Education Award (if eligible)

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (NM, AZ, CO, UT)—Field Crews, Summer Crew

www.youthcorps.org

Phone: 575-751-1420

E-mail:

Eligibility: U.S. citizen with some higher education

Ages: 16-25 (Summer Crew), 17-25 (Field Crews)

Type of work: Trail work, habitat restoration, environmental stewardship

Seasons: Year-round

Length: 3 and 6 months

AmeriCorps: Yes (300, 450, 675 and 900 hours)

Compensation: \$8.50/hr plus AmeriCorps Education Award (Summer Crew); \$4,225-\$7,000 living stipend plus AmeriCorps Education Award (Field Crews)

Utah Conservation Corps (UT, AZ) — Field Crews, Bilingual Youth Crews

<http://www.usu.edu/ucc/>

Phone: 435-797-0964

E-mail

Eligibility: U.S. citizen

Ages: 16-18 (Youth Crew); 18+ (Field Crew)

Type of work: Trail maintenance and construction, habitat restoration, invasive species removal

Seasons: Year-round, most positions summer months

Length: Varies by crew type

AmeriCorps: Yes (Field Crew); No (Youth Crew)

Compensation: Monthly living stipend (varies by program location) plus AmeriCorps Education Award (Field Crew); \$7.25/hr (Youth Crew)