



The Corps Network
Strengthening America through
service and conservation

Our Impact



What is a Corps?

Corps are locally-based organizations that engage young adults (generally ages 16 – 30) and veterans (up to age 35) in service projects that address conservation and community needs. Through a term of service that could last from a few months to a year, Corps participants – or “Corpsmembers” – gain work experience and develop in-demand skills. Corpsmembers are compensated with a stipend or living allowance and often receive an education award or scholarship upon completing their service. Additionally, Corps provide educational programming, mentoring, and access to career and personal counseling.

Corps partner with federal, state, and local community development and resource management agencies to engage Corpsmembers in necessary projects. Corpsmembers help...

- Maintain public lands, shorelines, waterways and wildlife
- Complete wildfire mitigation, response and recovery work
- Build trails and enhance access to outdoor recreation
- Reclaim lots and enhance urban green spaces
- Support large-scale community recycling efforts
- Grow fresh produce to address food insecurity
- Enhance community resilience to climate change
- Build sustainable infrastructure
- Improve energy efficiency in low-income homes
- Preserve historic structures

About The Corps Network

Established in 1985, The Corps Network is the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps. Our membership of 133 Corps operates across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories. The Corps Network supports Corps through advocacy, expert guidance in Corps operations and programming, and providing access to funding and project opportunities.

Corps in Numbers, FY20

19,615	Total number of Corpsmembers
333,185	Acres of habitat restored
319,047	Trees planted
141,236	Acres of invasive species treated
12,051	Miles of trails constructed/improved
12,891	Acres of fire fuels treated
4,956	Miles of waterway restored
2,661	Energy audits performed
2,508	Low-income homes weatherized
287	Fires responded to



Green City Force

Helping America Respond and Recover

Corps developed safety protocols and continued operations throughout COVID-19. Corps have been critical community assets, helping staff food pantries, set up auxiliary medical facilities, supply necessities to the homebound and provide employment to displaced workers.



Civ Corps



Los Angeles Conservation Corps



Larimer County Conservation Corps



Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - CO

A long history

Corps date back to the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s. Today, many Corps receive support from AmeriCorps.

Corps to Careers

Corpsmembers develop skills and can earn recognized certifications for growing fields, like conservation and infrastructure development.

A smart investment

A study found that every \$1 in federal taxes invested in national service returns over \$17 to society, program members & the government.¹

Bipartisan support

A 2020 survey found that 85 percent of Americans support reestablishing the Civilian Conservation Corps.²

Background: Kupu, Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps, Brenner Wakayama - Oahu Koolau Mountains

The Foundation of a Civilian Climate Corps

America faces climate change, as well as billions of dollars in backlogged work on our public lands and infrastructure. The existing Corps community can be scaled to create a **modern CCC initiative** designed to put Americans to work on critical projects.

Infrastructure & Public Lands

Engaging in Public-Private Partnerships; Supporting the Outdoor Economy

From deteriorating trails, to overgrown lots, resource managers and municipal agencies face billions of dollars in backlogged maintenance needs. Through **public-private partnerships**, federal, state and local government agencies work with Corps to complete projects sooner and engage a new generation of employees. They can also save money; a study by the National Park Service demonstrated Corps can reduce project expenses by 50% or more.³ Corps do work that helps improve access to lands and waters, supporting the \$459.8 billion outdoor recreation economy.⁴

Disaster Response and Mitigation

Making Communities and Landscapes Resilient

Natural disasters are becoming more frequent and more severe. Corps **mitigate** damage through removing fire fuels, clearing storm channels, installing permeable surfaces and stabilizing hillsides. When disasters occur, Corps manage volunteers and remove debris. Corps also assist in **recovery, rebuilding and revegetation**.

Conservation

Making Communities More Sustainable

Corps empower young people with the knowledge and skills to be good stewards of our environment. Corpsmembers provide conservation education to thousands of people every year. In addition, Corps improve **resource efficiency** by weatherizing and retrofitting low-income homes and public buildings.

Local Economies

Helping Develop the 21st Century Workforce

Corpsmembers gain hands-on job experience, earn certifications, and develop skills in leadership, problem-solving and teamwork. By partnering with businesses, schools and training organizations, Corps address local workforce needs and create **pathways to employment**.

Serving Our Country

Empowering the Next Generation

Corps offer opportunities for people of different religious, ethnic, racial, socioeconomic and political backgrounds to unite for the common goal of bettering our nation. Corpsmembers see the results of their work and recognize their ability to be **change-makers**.

1 Modicamore, Dominic and Naugler, Alex. "AmeriCorps and Senior Corps: Quantifying the Impact." ICF and Voices for National Service. July 2020.
2 Leiserowitz, Anthony et al. "Politics & Global Warming, December 2020." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication. January 2021.
3 National Park Service, Park Facility Management Division. "Conservation Corps Project Analysis." 2012. <https://bit.ly/3qhOods>.
4 "Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account." Bureau of Economic Analysis. November 2020. www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation.

Banner Photo on Front: Southwest Conservation Corps



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