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

Our Impact

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.
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

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

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

Corps to Careers
@TheCorpsNetwork   |   #CorpsWork
www.corpsnetwork.org
1275 K St, NW - Suite 1050 Washington, DC 20005   |   (202) 737 - 6272

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.