



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 – 25) 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 participants 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 critical projects. Corpsmembers help...

- Maintain public lands, waterways, and wildlife
- Strengthen community climate resilience
- Improve energy efficiency in low-income homes
- Preserve historic structures
- Expand access to outdoor recreation
- Reclaim lots and enhance urban green spaces
- Support community recycling efforts
- Grow fresh produce to address food insecurity
- Complete wildfire-related projects
- Build sustainable infrastructure

About The Corps Network

Established in 1985, [The Corps Network](#) is the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps. Our membership of more than 140 Corps operates across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories. The Corps Network supports Corps through advocacy, guidance, and providing access to funding and project opportunities.

Corps in Numbers FY21

- 20,187** Total # of Corpsmembers
- 639,340** Acres of habitat restored
- 242,283** Trees planted
- 224,963** Acres of invasive species treated
- 14,579** Miles of trails built/improved
- 18,594** Acres of fire fuels treated
- 9,583** Certifications earned
- 1,972** Low-income homes weatherized
- >580** Wildfires responded to



The Foundation of a Civilian Climate Corps (CCC)

We face climate change and billions of dollars in backlogged work on our public lands and infrastructure. Today's Corps community can be scaled to create a modern-day CCC initiative designed to put Americans to work on critical projects.



Wyoming Conservation Corps



Urban Corps of San Diego County



New Jersey Youth Corps of Phillipsburg



Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa

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 earn recognized certifications for the growing resiliency, conservation, and infrastructure economies.

A smart investment

A study found that every \$1 in federal taxes invested in national service returns >\$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: Northwest Youth Corps.

Infrastructure & Public Lands

Engaging in Public-Private Partnerships; Supporting the Outdoor Economy

Resource managers and municipal agencies face billions of dollars in backlogged maintenance needs. Federal, state and local government agencies partner with Corps to complete critical projects. Through **public-private partnerships**, agencies complete projects sooner and engage a new generation of potential 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 help improve equitable access to lands and waters, supporting the \$689 billion outdoor recreation economy.⁴

Disaster Response and Mitigation Building Climate Resiliency

Driven by climate change, natural disasters are becoming more frequent and more severe. Corps mitigate damage by removing fire fuels, clearing storm channels, installing permeable surfaces, and stabilizing hillsides. When disasters occur, Corps help communities recover by managing volunteers, removing debris, and gutting buildings. Corps also assist in long-term **recovery, rebuilding and revegetation efforts**.

Conservation Making Communities More Sustainable

Corps empower young people with the knowledge and skills to be good stewards of our environment. Thousands of people learn about conservation practices through community education delivered by Corpsmembers. In addition, Corps support recycling programs and improve **resource efficiency** by weatherizing low-income homes and public buildings and installing water and energy-saving retrofits.

Local Economies Developing 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 workforce needs and create **paths 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/3qh00ds>.
4 "Advocacy." Outdoor Industry Association, <https://outdoorindustry.org/advocacy/>. Accessed May 7, 2022.

Banner Photo on Front:
Conservation Corps North Bay



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