



The Corps Network

Our Impact

America's Service & Conservation Corps
2023



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 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 150 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 FY22

- 22,195** Total # of Corpsmembers
- 623,626** Trees planted
- 445,021** Acres of habitat restored
- 124,206** Acres of invasive species treated
- 93,871** Acres of fire fuels treated
- 12,791** Miles of trail built or improved
- 12,373** Certifications earned
- 2,321** Low-income homes weatherized
- 380** Disasters responded to



The Foundation of a Civilian Climate Corps (CCC)

We face the effects of climate change and billions of dollars in backlogged work on our public lands and infrastructure.

The existing Corps community can be scaled to create a modern-day CCC to put Americans to work on critical projects.



Heart of the City Neighborhoods



Rocky Mountain Youth Corps - NM



Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps



California Conservation Corps

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 conservation and outdoor recreation economies.

A Smart Investment

A 2022 study found that every \$1 invested in a Conservation Corps can return up to \$78 to society, program members, and the government.¹

Bipartisan Support

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

Background: San Jose Conservation Corps

Infrastructure & Public Lands Engaging in Public-Private Partnerships

Resource managers face billions of dollars in backlogged maintenance. Federal, state and local government agencies partner with Corps to complete critical projects. Through public-private partnerships, agencies address 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. Corps help improve equitable access to lands and waters, supporting the \$869 billion outdoor recreation economy.³

Conservation

Making Communities More Sustainable

Corps empower young people with knowledge and skills to be good stewards of our environment. Thousands of people learn about conservation through community education delivered by Corps. 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.

Disaster Response and Mitigation

Building Climate Resiliency

Driven by climate change, natural disasters are increasingly frequent and severe. Corps mitigate damage through removing fire fuels, installing permeable surfaces and green water infrastructure, and stabilizing hillsides. When disasters occur, Corps help communities recover by managing volunteers and removing debris. Corps also assist in long-term recovery, rebuilding, and revegetation efforts.

Local Economies

Developing Our Workforce

Through service, 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 Voigt, G., Borgida, J., Clark, D., Kulka, L., Miller, B., Modicamore, D., Pershing, J., Thompson, P., & Sarwana, M. "Return on Investment Study: Nevada Conservation Corps." ICF. September 2022.
2 Leiserowitz, Anthony et al. "Politics & Global Warming, December 2020." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication. January 2021.
3 "Economic Impact." Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, <https://recreationroundtable.org/economic-impact/>. Accessed December 31, 2022.

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