



The Corps Network

Our Impact

America's Service
& Conservation Corps
2024



What is a Corps?

Corps are local 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
- Reclaim lots and enhance urban green spaces
- 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 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 FY23

22,592	Total # of Corpsmembers
526,453	Acres of habitat restored
370,911	Trees planted
123,039	Acres of invasive species treated
67,250	Acres of fire fuels treated
15,277	Miles of trail built or improved
4,068	Miles of waterway restored
285	Wildfires responded to



Supporting the American Climate Corps

The White House launched the American Climate Corps in 2023 to put Americans to work conserving lands and waters, bolstering our resilience, and advancing environmental justice. Existing Corps programs provide a foundation for this initiative.



A Long History

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

Corps to Careers

Corpsmembers develop skills and earn recognized certifications for the growing conservation, resilience, and infrastructure economies. *Operation Fresh Start*

A Smart Investment

A 2023 study found that every \$1 invested in a Conservation Corps can return up to \$126 to society, program members, and the government.¹ *Montana Conservation Corps*

Bipartisan Support

A 2020 survey found that ~85 percent of Americans support reestablishing the Civilian Conservation Corps.² *Urban Corps of San Diego County*

Infrastructure and Public Lands Engaging in Public-Private Partnerships

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. Corps help improve equitable access to lands and waters, supporting the \$1.1 trillion outdoor recreation economy.³

Conservation Making Communities More Sustainable

Corps empower young people with skills to be good stewards of our environment. Thousands of people learn about conservation through 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.

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 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.

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 and schools, 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., Miller, B., Modicamore, D., Pershing, J., Thompson, P. (2023). Return on Investment Study: Montana Conservation Corps. ICF.

2 Leiserowitz, Anthony et al. "Politics & Global Warming, December 2020." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication. January 2021.

3 "National Recreation Economic Data." Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, <https://recreationroundtable.org/resources/national-recreation-data/>. Accessed February 8, 2024.

Cover Photo:
San Jose Conservation Corps
+ Charter School



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