WEBINAR

Agriculture Workforce Development Roundtable

DATE: August 25, 2026

TIME: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

The CorpsNetwork



Welcome!

- Thank you for joining us today
- Future webinars will be listed on website + shared in *The Crewleader* and on social media



Friendly Reminders

- **Please stay on mute** until Q&A
- If you have questions during the session, **drop them in the chat**
- **Captioning is enabled**
- Session will be **recorded**
- Stay for important **reminders at the end**
- Don’t forget to take our post-event **survey**

Today's Topic

Agriculture Workforce Development Roundtable

Objectives:

1.Tell the history and the role that Corps have played to expand soil conservation practices while providing technical assistance to farmers and landowners.

2.Discuss outcomes from the Agriculture IP program with the case study participants, workforce development opportunities that were offered to their Corpsmembers, and their experiences with collaborative partnerships as a result of the program.

3.Identify types of projects Corps can complete with farmer serving organizations, conservation districts, and university extensions.



Agriculture Workforce Development Roundtable

From the CCC to AmeriCorps

1933:
CCC began providing labor to the USDA



April 27, 1935:
FDR signed the Soil Conservation Act, established SCS

1935 – early 1940s:
CCC provided labor to the SCS







Photos: The Gateway to Oklahoma History, Oklahoma Conservation Historical Society

From the CCC to AmeriCorps

August 4, 1937:
Brown Creek SWCD was established in North Carolina



AmeriCorps members, Phillip Sam, Sandy Haynes, Priscilla Guerrero, and April Jurgen, explaining the different projects and activities they are involved in to a group of Quartz Hill High School students. 2/7/95

July 25, 1946:
Creation of the National Association of Soil Conservation District (NACD) Governing Officials



September 1994:
Inaugural AmeriCorps cohort with USDA/NRCS



AmeriCorps members reseeding poppies and wildflowers at the California Poppy Reserve. 2/6/95

Photos: NACD, National Archives – Clinton Presidential Files

From the CCC to AmeriCorps



July 2025 - Present:
TCN Agriculture/Agroforestry Toolkit



July 2024 – March 2025:
TCN provided support to Corps implementing the Agriculture Individual Placement (IP) program





Summer 2027:
Toolkit will be published



Photos: TCN

Agriculture/Agroforestry Corps Toolkit

- The Corps Network has received funding from the Platform of Agriculture and Climate Transformation (PACT) to develop a toolkit that includes guides for Youth Service and Conservation Corps and conservation districts to develop collaborative partnerships.

- **Goal is to demonstrate:**
  1. Corps can effectively expand the delivery of conservation technical assistance to farmers, ranchers and landowners while working with the districts, university extensions, non-profits, and/or federal entities.

  2. Corps can serve as an Individual Placement, workforce development program that provides TA training while building a robust early professional pipeline in the agriculture and agroforestry industry.

Agriculture/Agroforestry Corps Toolkit

- **Toolkit will include:**
  - Resource guide for partnership development
  - Best case studies from IP host sites
  - Agriculture professional development resource library
  - Trainer directory
  - Glossary of terms



The work of the Civilian Conservation Corps is a story in itself—an epic in conservation accomplishment. The camps assigned to the Soil Conservation Service carried out a prodigious job in winning the confidence of farmers in the effectiveness and practicability of soil conservation. – *Hugh Hammond Bennett*

The Hugh Bennett Lectures. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Agricultural Foundation, Inc., North Carolina State College, June 1959

Photo: The Gateway to Oklahoma History, Oklahoma Conservation Historical Society

Roundtable Discussion with Case Studies

Shana Vaid, District Conservation Technician
Rakel Sanchez, District Operations Manager – Colorado State Conservation Board
Bent County Conservation District/Colorado Department of Agriculture

Geoff Elliot, Executive Director – Stewards Individual Placements, Conservation Corps New Mexico Individual Placements
Conservation Legacy

Ariel Kagan, Climate and Working Lands Program Director
Jada Cskikos-Monroe, Climate and Working Lands Member Engagement Coordinator
Minnesota Farmers Union

Christina Kostelecky, Senior Executive Administrator
Pasa Sustainable Agriculture

Temis Taylor, AmeriCorps Program Manager
Utah Conservation Corps

CONTACT

Speaker Contact Info:

- **Temis Taylor**, AmeriCorps Program Manager, Utah Conservation Corps, temis.taylor@usu.edu
- **Ariel Kagan**, Climate and Working Lands Program Director, Minnesota Farmers Union, ariel@mfu.org
- **Jada Csikos-Monroe**, Climate and Working Lands Member Engagement Coordinator, Minnesota Farmers Union, jada@mfu.org
- **Christina Kostelecky**, Senior Executive Administrator, Pasa Sustainable Agriculture, christina@pasafarming.org
- **Geoff Elliot**, Executive Director - Stewards Individual Placements, Conservation Corps New Mexico Individual Placements, Conservation Legacy, gelliot@conservationlegacy.org
- **Shana Vaid**, District Conservation Technician, Bent County Conservation District, Shana.Vaid@co.nacdnet.net
- **Rakel Sanchez**, District Operations Manager – Colorado State Conservation Board, Colorado Department of Agriculture, rakel.sanchez@state.co.us

More sessions to be announced soon.

Find updates on our website: Events → Webinars

REMINDERS

August 27, 2026:
Webinar with NPS Youth & Young Adults: Voices of our Youth at 250: Journeys & Park Connections for Future Generations

Please take our post-webinar survey.

More sessions to be announced soon.

Find updates on our website: Events → Webinars