

Adventurous Teens Wanted For Youth Corps Projects *Working in the Wilderness: Northwest Group Repairs Mount Rainier Trails in Remote Wilderness*

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The Northwest Youth Corps is looking for a few good teens.

The organization, based out of Oregon, employs teenagers between the ages of 14 and 19 to repair trails and work in parks and forests in Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Northern California.

About 20 of the teens are currently wrapping up work in Mount Rainier National Park after a summer of making repairs to the 3.7 mile Glacier Basin Trail. Record rains and flooding at Mount Rainier in 2006 washed away several feet of topsoil, leaving the trail blocked by boulders, logjams, landslides and long stretches of rover rock.

The Northwest Youth Corps, which has been working on the trails since 2007, is nearing the end of that project. With September approaching, the Northwest Youth Corps is looking for a fresh group of workers to take part in fall projects. "They have a campsite and they work from there," said Charlie Mouy, marketing director for NYC. "The kids will be out there for a period of five weeks and they stay ... out in the woods."

Crew members involved in the program have the opportunity to earn a non-taxable education stipend of \$1,225 for their five weeks of work. The organization currently has projects ongoing in Olympic National Park, Wenatchee, Mount Baker and Mount Adams, among other locations. Mouy said participants have a leg up in forestry jobs following work in the program, which the recipients of the projects pay for with state and federal funds.

Established in 1984, Northwest Youth Corps is a nonprofit organization whose described mission is to create leaders through teamwork, education and outdoor conservation work experiences. To enroll, teens should fill out an application as soon as possible online at www.nwyouthcorps.org or call (541) 349-5055.



Courtesy photo
Members of Northwest Youth Corps use a rock bar to move a stump during repair work on the Glacier Basin Trail on the northeast side of Mount Rainier National Park this summer.