



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Youth Work to Improve Eastgate Wildlife Area in Cottage Grove**

June 26, 2006 (Eugene, OR) – YouthWorks, an outdoor conservation and education program, is working in conjunction with the Army Corps of Engineers to improve the Eastgate Wildlife Area at Dorena Lake. The 60 youth ages 11 – 15 that worked on the project have signed up to participate in a variety of outdoor recreation and conservation adventures this summer.

Using hand trowels, shovels and buckets, youth worked to facilitate good growing conditions for newly planted trees and shrubs at the Wildlife Area. From 8:30am – 3:30pm Monday through Friday, youth gathered in Cottage Grove to improve the Eastgate Wildlife Area. In addition to the conservation work, youth spend equal time each day recreating and learning about local wildlife.

“I love it here, we get to meet friends, and be outside. At [YouthWorks] we are able to learn about other people, and about our environment.” – Cassi C., 2005 YouthWorks participant

Whether restoring wildlife habitats in Cottage Grove, whitewater rafting down the Willamette, or exploring coastal tide pools, teams explore the unique geology of the Northwest. They may find local creatures such as starfish, sea anemones, and the endangered Fender's Blue Butterfly. The joy of achieving project goals and the excitement of discovering new creatures and wonderful places, fosters new friendships.

“I made a lot of new friends and work[ed] really hard”. – James R., 2005 YouthWorks participant

At the end of their three week adventure youth celebrate the completion of their program with an overnight camping and recreation trip. To have your youth participate in a YouthWorks session, contact Northwest Youth Corps at (541) 349-5055. YouthWorks programs are offered July 17th – August 4th, and August 14th – September 1st.

*YouthWorks was started in 1999 and is part of the Northwest Youth Corps organization. Northwest Youth Corps is a non-profit youth development organization whose mission is to create leaders through teamwork, education, and outdoor conservation work experiences. For additional information contact Northwest Youth Corps at 2621 Augusta Street, Eugene, OR 97403, phone (541) 349-5055, or visit [www.northwestyouthcorps.org](http://www.northwestyouthcorps.org).*

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## **Resources**

Northwest Youth Corps  
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