POSITION: AmeriCorps Crew Member

Position Type: Seasonal

LOCATION(s): Various, but starting and ending in Eugene, OR

COMPENSATION: Members receive a living allowance of $2,600 prorated through their term of service, along with earning a $1,612 AmeriCorps Education Award upon the successful completion of the program.

QUESTIONS/CONTACT: Rebecca Cashero, Young Adult Recruitment Coordinator, (541)-743-8591 or RebeccaC@nwyouthcorps.org.

Organization Overview:
Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) is a non-profit organization providing opportunities for youth and young adults to grow and experience success since 1984. Through partnering with agencies like the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, NYC’s programs serve over 1,000 youth and young adults annually, operating in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California. NYC facilitates outdoor conservation-service programs throughout the entire Northwest, emphasizing leadership, teamwork and individual growth. NYC Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC) is a program of Northwest Youth Corps.

NYC engages youth and young adults from all walks of life, offering experiences that propel corps members into future opportunities and careers. Hard and soft skills are taught and reinforced throughout the member’s term through formal practical trainings. NYC strives to provide program participants with the skills and competencies needed to succeed in a wide variety of professional environments and life circumstances.

Position Description:
NYC’s young adult programs are innovative AmeriCorps service programs designed to provide hands-on training and experience to those interested in pursuing employment with conservation corps, land and water resource management agencies, and other outdoor careers. Our program integrates team-based work projects, education, and on-site vocational training into an experience that prioritizes personal development and conservation work skills.

The position is challenging.
- Participants work on physically demanding conservation projects in all kinds of weather.
- Our program is a highly structured immersive experience, in an environment that does not allow for much independent time away from the crew, time in “civilization,” or access to electrical power.
- We focus intentionally on the concept of community within our crews, which means we focus on being present with one another and do not use cell phones until after 8PM each evening (we intentionally “unplug”).
- Participants engage in many group activities each day to help the crew function, including meal prep, water treatment, and tool maintenance, followed by a family-style dinner and formal educational sessions.
- Participants are actively mentored and empowered by their leader and expected to take on increasing leadership roles within the crew, including acting as a “leader of the day/week” by the end of the program.

Through these challenging and rewarding experiences, our programs consistently help members become resilient, disciplined, empathetic and strong. A high value is placed upon interpersonal dynamics and the development of robust workplace skillsets.

Training/Professional Development:
Participants are provided a comprehensive training which, depending on your crew’s projects may cover the following topics:
- USDA Chainsaw/Crosscut operation and maintenance
- NYC Leadership Philosophy
- Basic Trail maintenance and Construction
Duties and Responsibilities:
Work Project Participation – Crew Members will be part of a six-person crew led by one staff member. Crew Members are responsible for the safe completion of assigned projects promptly to predetermined specifications under the direction of their Crew Leader. They work closely with program staff and other participants, paying specific attention to safe workplace practices, proper tool use, work quality, and efficiency. Participants will work on high priority conservation projects for land management partners like the Forest Service, BLM, and Bureau of Reclamation. Some crews may be focused on the construction of bridges and kiosks, while others focus on the restoration of at-risk landscapes and watersheds. Other projects may include fuels reduction or GIS mapping and surveys. Each crew will have a project specialty and will receive training and certification appropriate to that theme.

Development & Education: - Crew Members participate in informal and formal educational discussions. An Individual Development Plan will be created by each member to foster self-improvement and reflection throughout the program. Participants will have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials.

Required Qualifications:
- Desire to learn and grow
- 19+ years old
- High School Diploma, GED
- Ability to lift 50 lbs., hike several miles, and be on foot for 8-10 hours per day
- Positive mental attitude, flexibility and commitment to success
- Excellent judgment
- Ability to listen, give and take feedback
- Desire to go the extra mile to make a positive impact on oneself, others and the environment
- Ability to pass a criminal history background check

Hours:
Though schedules can vary, most crews will conduct project work Monday through Friday throughout their 9-week experience. On Saturday and Sunday, crews conduct resupply, shower, do laundry and participate in recreational activities (e.g., a hike). Members must complete a minimum of 450 hours of service, averaging 40-45 hours a week - including work, training, education, and travel time — a 30-minute lunch and at least two breaks each day. No vacation time is provided during the 9-week immersive program.

Northwest Youth Corps is an Equal Opportunity Employer - Our core purpose is to provide opportunities for youth and young adults to learn, grow, and experience success. We believe diversity is a key source of strength for our communities, and we strive to create a safe and empowering environment for participants from a wide range of backgrounds and abilities. We are deeply invested in the success of youth and young adults of all races, ethnicities, gender identities, religions, sexual orientations, economic statuses, or other socio-cultural identifiers.