



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Youth Conservation Corps

YCC in the Northeast Region

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a summer employment program, established by Public Law 93-408, for young men and women age 15 through 18, who work, learn, and earn together by doing projects on public lands. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service, U. S. Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife and National Park Service.

The purpose of the YCC program is to:

1. Accomplish needed conservation work on public lands.
2. Provide gainful employment for 15 through 18 year old males and females from all social, economic, ethnic, and racial classifications.
3. Develop an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's natural environment and heritage in the participating young adults.

The northeastern region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hosts YCC programs at several national wildlife refuges. All of our programs are non-residential, drawing participants from the local community.

What will enrollees do?

Work projects last approximately eight weeks. Enrollees work a standard 40-hour work week, 8 hours/day.

Each program is unique and each day brings its own set of challenges and

experiences. Projects may include trail building, improving wildlife habitat, boundary sign posting, invasive plant control, bird banding, simple construction, office work and general maintenance activities.

Programs also include opportunities to learn about the environment through hands-on participation in refuge biological activities, fieldtrips and work side-by-side with refuge biologists and staff.



Who is eligible?

The program is open to U.S. citizens who will be 15 years of age by June 1, and not over 19 years of age by August 30 of that year. Enrollees may be male or female and come from all social, economic, ethnic, and racial classifications.

Reliable transportation to and from the worksite is required.

Enrollees must obtain parental or legal guardian consent to enroll in the program and have no history of serious criminal or anti-social behavior that may create safety problems.

Applicants are selected through a random selection process- no prior experience is required.

What are the benefits?

Applicants selected are paid the prevailing Federal or State minimum wage - whichever is higher.

Young adults can explore conservation career opportunities and develop an appreciation of the nation's natural environment and heritage from their environmental and work experience. They participate in activities not typically available to the visiting public.

How do I apply?

Applications must be completed by April 15th each year. For information about YCC programs with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the northeastern region, contact the regional YCC Coordinator:

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