

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
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News Release



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APPLY NOW FOR PAID YOUTH CONSERVATION JOBS WITH U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Grosse Ile, Michigan – An exciting opportunity will be offered this summer at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. A select number of young men and women between 15 and 18 years of age will be given the chance to experience nature in a unique setting and work with a dedicated team of wildlife professionals on America's first international wildlife refuge.

Applications are now available for positions in the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program, a meaningful summer employment opportunity for young men and women to work, learn, and earn in a team setting. Selected participants will take part in various assignments throughout the program and will complete significant conservation projects while receiving a paycheck.

Youth Conservation Corps crews undertake difficult work projects that require effort and cooperation. Tasks assigned will incorporate general refuge operations, wildlife research, trail maintenance and visitor access concerns, environmental education and recreation programs, and basic grounds upkeep and repair. A keen interest in natural resources and a general appreciation for field work is highly recommended. Applicants should be prepared to carry out physically challenging tasks and labor-intensive duties that may include clearing vegetation, constructing and improving trails, and invasive plant removal while exposed to sun, wind, rain, poisonous plants, and sometimes "buggy" conditions.

The Youth Conservation Corps program is challenging, educational, and fun, and gives individuals the chance to play an active role in protecting the nation's precious resources. Crew members will learn about career opportunities in the conservation field, gain valuable work skills, and develop lifelong friendships with other young adults from all walks of life. Participants will also enjoy educational field trips, hands-on experiences, and activities both on-site and within the greater Detroit community.

Enrollees in the Youth Conservation Corps program are chosen using a random-method selection process. No demographic information such as race or family income will be utilized for selection. Once designated, crew members will be required to work 40 hours a week and must be available to work for the entire 8-week program. Participants are required to provide their own transportation to the work site. Crew work begins June 18 and runs through August 10, 2012. Pay is minimum wage. Interested youth should e-mail Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge staff at Anna_Cook@fws.gov or call 734.692.7649 for additional information about the YCC program. Applications and Medical Forms are available online at www.fws.gov/midwest/detroitriver/YCC.html. For consideration, all application materials must be received (or postmarked) by **April 25, 2012**.

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the leading wildlife conservation agency known for scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, and dedication and commitment to public service. More than 550 national wildlife refuges have been established throughout the United States and in surrounding territories to provide a safe haven for America's fish, wildlife, and plant populations. Each of the 556 refuges incorporated into the National Wildlife Refuge System work to uphold the mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to "conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people." The Service is both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation. Visit www.fws.gov for more information.

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