



## United States Youth Conservation Corps

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a well-balanced work-learn-earn program that develops an understanding and appreciation in participating youth of the nation's environment and heritage. It is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service, and by the U.S. Department of the Interior--Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service. YCC offers gainful summer employment to youth, for approximately eight weeks, in a healthful outdoor atmosphere.

Enrollees will be paid the minimum wage for a 40 hour work week. Most projects will enroll an equal number of males and females.

Projects include building trails, maintaining fences, cleaning up campgrounds, improving wildlife habitat, and thinning timber stands. Participants will do hard physical work and may be exposed to insects, poison oak and ivy, adverse weather, and difficult working conditions.

### Eligibility Requirements

Young men and women, 15 through 18 years of age, who are permanent residents of the United States, its Territories, or possessions, are eligible for employment without regard to social, economic, racial, or ethnic backgrounds. Handicapped youth who can effectively participate in most YCC activities are eligible. Youth must have no history of serious criminal or other antisocial behavior that might endanger their safety or that of others; have or be able to obtain a work permit as required under the laws of their State; have a Social Security number or have made application for one; be willing and able to work hard and participate in most work projects. Employment is without regard to Civil Service or classification laws, rules, or regulations.

### How You Can Enroll

To apply, youth meeting these qualifications should complete this YCC application form and return it at the earliest possible date to the nearest unit of a National Park, National Forest, or national Fish and Wildlife Refuge or Hatchery.

Applicants will be selected on a random basis and will be notified of selection. Demographic information such as age, race, and family income is not used in the selection process.

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#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT FOR THE YCC APPLICATION (FS-1800-18) 10/94

The following information is provided to comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (PL-579). 5 U.S.C 301 and 7 CFR 260 authorize acceptance of the information requested on this form. The data will be used in the selection process of applicants for the YCC Crews, and for contacting the selected applicants. Furnishing your name and social security number is voluntary. However, your application cannot be processed without this information.

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According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no agency may conduct or sponsor, and no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. The OMB approval number for this collection is 0596-0084. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

YCC complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. (29 U.S. Code 794). Under this Act and implementing Regulations, handicapped persons "who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions" of the YCC are eligible. (7 CFR Part 15b and 43 CFR Part 17).



## Employment Opportunity – Summer 2018 Kenai National Wildlife Refuge



# YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS



**Employment Period:** June 4 – July 27, 2018

**Wages:** \$9.90 per hour

**Work Week:** 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. A typical workday will begin at 8:00am and end at 5:30pm (9 hour days / alternating Fridays off). Applicants must be available for overnight “spike camps” which may last up to four nights.

### Major Duties for Youth Conservation Corps

YCC enrollees work, learn and earn together as a team to accomplish outdoor projects that further the conservation of the natural resources of the Kenai Refuge including trail maintenance and rehabilitation, historic cabin restoration, campground maintenance, litter pick-up, and special projects. Enrollees will participate in environmental education on a weekly basis.

**Requirements:** To be eligible for the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), you must:

- 1) be at least 15 years of age and no older than 18 years of age during the period of employment, **June 4<sup>th</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>**.
- 2) **be able to work the entire eight weeks.**
- 3) have housing in the community and have transportation on a daily basis to and from the refuge headquarters on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna.
- 4) wear the refuge uniform in a neat, clean manner.
- 5) be prepared to work outdoors on rainy days.
- 6) currently have or be able to obtain a banking account to receive direct deposit payroll transactions.
- 7) be able to swim 100 yards unassisted. Enrollees must be in good health and physically fit. A health certificate will be required for enrollment in the program.

### How to Apply:

Applications for Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) positions will be accepted from **March 5<sup>th</sup> to April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Applications may be picked up at Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Alaska Employment Service Office in Kenai, or from local high school career counseling offices. High school students 15 to 18 years of age are eligible to apply.

Applications may be submitted by mail or in person.

**Mail:**  
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge  
P.O. Box 2139  
Soldotna, AK 99669

**In Person:**  
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge  
Mile 1, Ski Hill Rd  
Soldotna, AK 99669

**Office Hours:**  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Mon. - Fri.)  
10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.)

Selections are made through a random selection process, equally split between male/female. Once enrollees are selected, they must be able to work the full 8-week period. **Selected applicants will be notified by phone by April 27<sup>th</sup>.**

When all positions are filled, any applicant who is not selected will be notified by letter.

*For more information, please contact:*

Scott Slavik, Visitor Services Specialist  
Phone: (907) 260-2846 FAX: (907) 262-3599  
Email: Scott\_Slavik@fws.gov

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge  
P.O. Box 2139 / 1 Ski Hill Road  
Soldotna, AK 99669



# Commonly Asked Questions about the Youth Conservation Corps Program



## What kind of work does YCC do?

YCC enrollees work as a team to accomplish outdoor projects on the refuge including trail maintenance and rehabilitation, historic cabin restoration, campground maintenance, litter pick-up, and special projects. Enrollees will participate in environmental education on a weekly basis

## What must enrollees provide for their work?

### Frontcountry Projects:

- Rain gear
- Blue or black jeans in good repair (no holes, frayed seams, etc.)
- Sack lunch for each day
- Two 1-quart water bottles with water for each work day

**Backcountry Projects:** In addition to items listed under frontcountry projects, the following items are needed for overnight "spike camp" work projects.

- Backpack to comfortably carry 40 lbs.
- Sleeping bag rated to 30 degrees F.
- Sleeping pad (closed cell foam)

## What gear does the refuge provide for the YCC enrollees?

### Frontcountry:

- Leather work gloves
- 6" – 8" high leather work boots, brown or black in color
- Work caps
- Personal safety equipment
- Refuge uniform shirts
- Day Pack

**Backcountry:** In addition to items listed under frontcountry projects, the refuge provides the following gear items for overnight "spike camps".

- Tents
- Camp stoves and cook kits
- Food for all meals on the "spike" (except for the first day sack lunch)

## What training do YCC leaders have?

Leaders are trained in first aid, CPR, hand tools, chainsaws, water hazards, and bear safety. They have experience in working with youth on outdoor field projects. They also have experience in teaching environmental education topics.

### **What training will youth receive in the YCC program?**

Youth will receive first aid, CPR, hand tools, water hazards, and bear safety training. They will receive daily safety briefings before beginning each workday. They will receive instruction in environmental education topics.

### **What are the special requirements of the program?**

Enrollees must be at least 15 years of age and no older than 18 years of age during the period of employment.

Enrollees must be able to work the entire eight weeks.

Enrollees must have housing in the community and have transportation on a daily basis to and from the refuge headquarters on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna.

Enrollees will wear the refuge uniform in a neat, clean manner.

Enrollees must be prepared to work outdoors on rainy days.

Enrollees are **only** allowed to use hand tools. Only adult leaders are authorized to operate power tools such as chainsaws.

Enrollees must currently have or be able to obtain a bank account to receive electronic direct deposit payroll transactions.

Youth must be able to swim 100 yards unassisted. They must be in good health and physically fit. A health certificate will be required for enrollment in the program.

Electronic equipment (Ipods, Gameboys, etc.) is not permitted for use during the workday. All cell phones will be turned off during the work day.

**No tobaccos, in any form, alcoholic beverages, or non-prescription drugs are permitted during YCC work projects, "spike" camp, or environmental education activities.**

If youth interested in the program or their parents have any questions, please have them call the refuge at 262-7021 or call 260-2846 to speak to Scott Slavik.

