



COLORADO YOUTH CORPS 2014 FACT SHEET

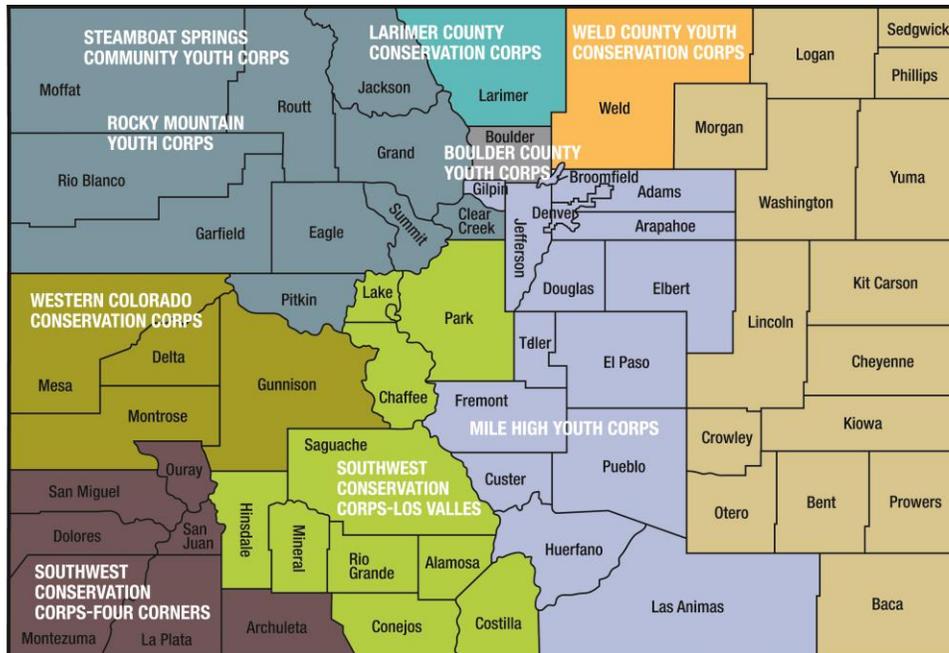
Youth corps employ and train youth and young adults on land, water, and energy conservation projects while cultivating in them civic engagement, leadership, and a desire to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Youth corps are a proven strategy for engaging young people in service to their communities and stewardship of their environment. Participants earn a competitive wage as well as technical training and experience. Youth corps participants improve Colorado’s public lands, conserve natural resources and help the disadvantaged while building bright futures for themselves.



Youth corps also provide Colorado with critical conservation services. Corpsmembers:

- enhance and maintain Colorado’s recreation infrastructure – in both urban and rural areas
- improve the health of Colorado’s forests and prairies and help keep recreation users safe on trails, roads and in campgrounds
- maintain and enhance critical wildlife habitat and riparian areas
- save precious water and energy resources and provide cost savings to low-income Coloradans





Participation in a youth corps is a life-changing experience. Young people work hard for a purpose – and are better for it. Research shows that participants:

- are more likely to pursue careers and higher education in natural resource management than their non-participant peers
- are far more engaged with the outdoors than those who have not been in a corps
- are more likely to pursue careers and higher education in natural resource management than their non-participant peers
- have a remarkable increase in intended spending on outdoor recreation gear
- have a far higher rate of intended outdoor recreation participation
- have more positive attitudes toward public lands and environmentalism
- show improvements in educational and career aspirations
- show improvements in job readiness, leadership skills, and an interest and investment in their communities

2013 By the Numbers

- Ten accredited youth corps served 1,450 young people
- CYCA and youth corps distributed \$1 million in AmeriCorps education awards to 830 young people.
- Corpsmembers conducted energy audits and installed energy saving measures in the homes of 2,191 low-income residents
- Corpsmembers installed 11,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs, 3,948 LED bulbs, and 1,933 high efficiency toilets
- Energy and water savings from these measures was equivalent to taking 179 cars off the road, resulted in annual savings of \$256,000, and saved the equivalent of 66 Olympic-size pools of water
- Corpsmembers planted more than 30,000 trees, seedlings, and grasses.
- Corpsmembers maintained 199 miles of pedestrian, off-highway vehicle, bicycle, and equestrian trails
- Corpsmembers rehabilitated 227,100 acres of fire or flood-damaged land
- Corpsmembers removed 20,024 beetle-kill, invasive, or hazard trees from forests and riparian areas

