

2006-2007

OREGON YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“OYCC creates meaningful opportunities for youth through significant resource projects that enhance the Oregon Community.”



YOUTH
CONSERVATION CORPS

MESSAGE FROM OYCC

We are pleased to present the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps' (OYCC) 2006-07 Annual Report. This report documents OYCC's success in building partnerships across Oregon that meet the growing needs of our youth and communities.



John Asher, left and Doug Denning, right.

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps was created by the 1987 Oregon Legislature to emulate the federal Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) of the 1930's. The goals of youth employment and enhancement of the environment are very similar. Work skills learned, teamwork developed, and lasting friendships created are integral byproducts of OYCC service, just as with the CCCs.

The past two years have produced dramatic progress in the number of youth served. We have grown our programs, maintained services to local partners, prioritized fund raising and increased partnerships.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon State Marine Board and Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development have continued their crucial support. Other major funding sources include: US Fish & Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, US Bureau of Land Management, Resource Advisory Committees, County Commissioners, local government entities, the National Forest Foundation and non-profit foundations.

We are proud of OYCC's accomplishments for Oregon and pleased to assure prospective partners that every dollar invested goes directly to support youth employment, education and nurture the environment we hold so dear.

John Asher

Program Director
Oregon Youth Conservation Corps

Doug Denning

Program Administrator
Oregon Youth Conservation Corps



“The work program has done a lot for me. It taught me how to do a lot of stuff and was fun.”



“I have grown so much and the crew made me very confident in the workforce.”



OREGON YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS
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and Workforce Development
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps builds on the strong connections between positive work experiences, work skills, personal responsibility, commitment to education and future employment for Oregon's youth.

OYCC was established by the Oregon Legislature in 1987 to:

- protect, conserve, rehabilitate and improve the natural, historical and cultural resources of Oregon; and
- increase educational, training and employment opportunities for youth by improving work skills, instilling work ethic and increasing employability

Youth corps members work on projects such as:

- Construction of trails, boat docks, disability access ramps, fences and picnic tables
- Restoration and preservation of wetlands, stream banks, endangered species, wildlife habitat and historical and cultural sites
- Maintenance of all of the above after wind, floods, fire or normal use
- Water quality testing, removal of non-native plants and weeds, watershed work, nurseries management, landscaping, mapping, surveying, recycling and other community stewardship projects

Youth who have strong work skills and positive goals for education and employment are more likely to achieve two important Oregon Benchmarks: completion of high school and avoidance of juvenile crime delinquency.

OYCC's programs include:

- Summer Conservation Corps (SCC)
- Community Stewardship Corps (CSC)
- Youth River Stewards
- Line in the Sand

OYCC has a nine-member Advisory Committee, three members appointed by the Governor, three appointed by the Senate President and three appointed by the Speaker of the House.



“We have fun and learn lots of new things on the job. You meet new people and work on your job skills.”

“If not for this program, I probably would not come to school next year”.



“The teachers always understand and work with you so you can graduate on time.”

“OYCC gave me hope for the future. Now I think I might graduate.”



SUMMER CONSERVATION CORPS

The Summer Conservation Corps (SCC) is OYCC's largest program, with a local program in each of Oregon's 36 counties. It provides work crews throughout Oregon to complete projects such as trail construction and maintenance, landscaping, planting, wetlands/bank/stream restoration, invasive species (weed) removal, and construction projects.

During the summer of 2006, SCC employed 702 Oregon youth as Corpsmembers with an additional 41 youth serving as Crew Leaders! OYCC funds were leveraged at an average of 4 to 1 bringing in over \$2.3 million in actual and in-kind match. At the end of the summer, over 13,000 project work hours had been completed.

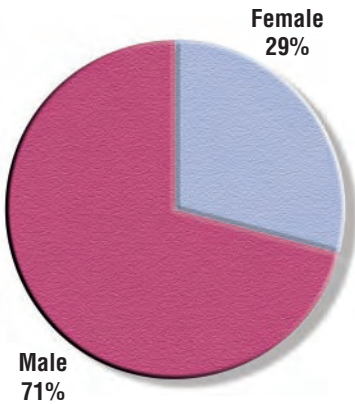
OYCC and the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development provide program standards, funding, training, technical assistance, program evaluation and monitoring. Additionally, OYCC coordinates and assists in developing education, service and work projects for the Summer Conservation Corps and Community Stewardship Corps programs.



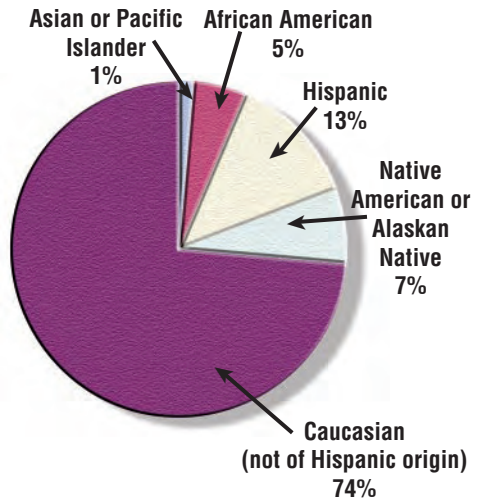
"It was fun doing hard work and making friends."

AVERAGE PARTICIPANT AGE: 16

Gender



Ethnicity



Crew Leaders report that average Corpsmembers show significant gains in the following areas after their OYCC experience:

- Developing a strong work ethic
- Identifying and achieving goals
- Working well with others
- Operating tools and equipment
- Practicing workplace safety
- Self-esteem

Additionally, many Corpsmembers express interest in further education and training as a result of the work they perform on Summer Conservation Corps crews.

“I really enjoy the program. I recommend this program to anyone who enjoys the outdoors and getting dirty.”

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP CORPS

The Community Stewardship Corps (CSC) are innovative community-focused alternative education programs. OYCC partners with 25 alternative schools statewide. Youth gain valuable education, employment, work ethic, environmental knowledge and leadership skills through integrated classroom and field-based learning projects.

Crew activities include natural resource projects such as trail construction and maintenance, invasive species and noxious weed removal, riparian and wetlands restoration and cultivation of native plant stock. Corpsmembers also participate as interns in healthcare and veterinary facilities and on technical projects such as GIS and GPS mapping and surveying, water/soil sampling and monitoring.

Other community-based activities include volunteering in programs such as SMART (Start Making A Reader Today), Meals on Wheels, providing firewood for the elderly, SOLV, local food banks, community gardens, recycling and renovation projects for private businesses, homeowners and public agencies.



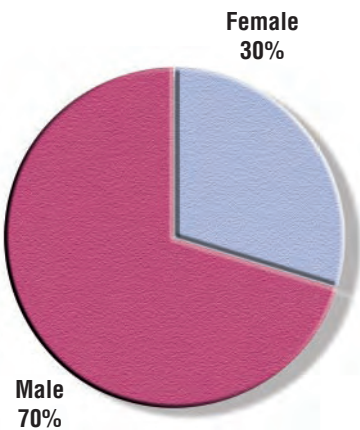
“Scholarship money. I appreciate the fact that I can start my out of high school education well.”

Out of 665 applicants, 557 youth were accepted into the program during the 2005-06 school year. 31% of these youth had some involvement with the judicial system.

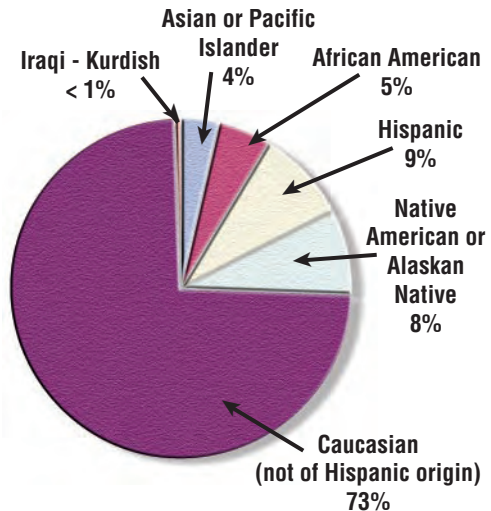
During the 2005-2006 school year, 2,171 high school credits were earned and 78 diplomas were awarded to CSC participants. CSC participants were awarded \$199,335 in scholarships. These scholarships allow students who successfully participated in CSC programs to attend an accredited college or trade school upon high school completion. Since 1992, OYCC has awarded 1,317 scholarships totaling over \$1.3 million.

AVERAGE PARTICIPANT AGE: 16

Gender



Ethnicity



Crew leaders report that average Corpsmembers show significant improvement in the following areas after completing their OYCC experience:

- Increase in work skills
- Relating to people with different backgrounds
- Cooperating with others in a team environment
- Ability to learn from their mistakes
- Understanding environmental problems and issues

YOUTH RIVER STEWARDS

The Youth River Stewards program is a collaborative effort between OYCC Inc., Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and private foundation grants. It introduces CSC students to the needs of Oregon's rivers with three day/two night canoe trips on the Willamette River. The goal of the program is to provide insight and education, a sense of ownership and to instill a lifetime of commitment to Oregon's rivers. Program participants also gain exposure to natural resource career opportunities.

Stewardship of the environment is the program's ultimate objective, but the river trips also allow students to learn about canoeing, Leave-No-Trace camping, invasive species (weed) removal, and riverbank cleanup. The youth also learn about the history of the Willamette River, teamwork and leadership skills. Stewardship must be experienced, not simply taught. These river trips provide important hands-on lessons about the health and conservation of Oregon's rivers. Summer and fall crews, consisting of 96 youth removed several acres of Scot's Broom and cleaned up miles of shoreline in 2006.



"It was demanding, but we had fun, so it was worth it."

"This changed my life. I am now more a part of my community and I want to make a difference. I have learned so much."



LINE IN THE SAND

Invasive, non-native plants are expanding rapidly on the public and private lands of Oregon's coastal watershed and shore areas. These plants are invading ecosystems, choking out native plants and destroying habitat.

OYCC is partnering with Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Siuslaw Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Lincoln SWCD, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Lincoln, Lane, Douglas, Coos and Curry Counties, among others, to educate and train OYCC crews in weed management and habitat restoration in coastal counties.

The Line-in-the-Sand project name attempts to describe our combined efforts to stop the northern spread of invasive species on the Oregon coast, and habitat restoration for threatened and endangered species. Planting of native plants after removal of blackberry, ivy, Scots Broom, gorse, knotweed and other invasive species is crucial to success of the project.

"My OYCC experience was a fun and educational experience."

This project is an ambitious regional program that began with raising \$10,900 in 2004 - now expanded to over \$135,000 for 2007. OYCC implements the program by hiring youth from the target areas to make up work crews. OYCC provides education and training, and arranges for payroll and administrative services. Corpmembers receive real world education in botany, biology, geography, ecosystems and earth sciences.

“Believing in myself and others has to be the one thing that will ultimately stay with me.”



I feel responsible and I know I can do hard work now.”



OYCC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dennis Tooley
Redmond

PattiAnn Monzie
Hood River

Cyndy Coleman Marshall
Bend

Representative Sal Esquivel
Medford

Bill Hastie
Salem

Senator Floyd Prozanski
Eugene

Maggie Peyton
Vernonia

Darlene Scheler
Baker City

2006 PARTNERS

Alder Creek Children's Center
 Alpha Conservation Corps
 Alsea Fish Hatchery
 Alternative Pathways
 AmeriCorps
 Aprovecho Research Center
 Army Corps of Engineers
 Ashland Parks & Recreation, City of
 Astoria, City of
 Baker 5J School District
 Baker County Commission on Children and Families
 Baker County Court
 Baker County Juvenile Department
 Baker County Parks & Recreation
 Baker Education Center
 Baker Training & Employment Consortium
 Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District
 Banks-Vernonia State Trail
 Bear Creek Watershed
 Beaverton School District
 Bend, City of
 Benton County Parks
 Big Picture Company
 Blue Mountain Alternative Education Center
 Boys and Girls Club of America
 Bring Recycling
 Bullivant Houser Bailey
 Burns - Hines Alternative Education Center
 Burns High School
 Canby Area Transit
 Canby Conservation Corps
 Canby High School
 Canby School District
 Canby, City of
 Canyon City, City of
 Canyon Senior Center
 Career Enhancement Center
 Cascade Education Corps
 Cascades Raptor Center
 Central Oregon Community College
 Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
 Central Point School District
 Chemeketa Community College
 Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District
 Clatskanie Public Works, City of
 Clatsop County American Red Cross
 Clatsop County Juvenile Department
 Clatsop County Parks Department
 Clean Water Services
 Clyde Holliday State Park
 College Hill Alternative School
 Collier State Park
 Columbia County Forest, Parks & Recreation
 Columbia County Juvenile Department
 Columbia County Watershed Council
 Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
 Columbia River Youth Corps
 Columbia Slough Watershed Council
 Comcast
 Community Action Program of East Central Oregon
 Community Connections
 Community Services Consortium
 Community Youth Action Project
 Concord Campus
 Condon Childcare Center
 Condon School District
 Condon, City of
 Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
 Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
 Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
 Consortium of North Marion County Schools
 Corps Restoring the Urban Environment
 Corvallis High School
 Country Home Furnishings
 County Commissioners – Title II and III
 Craftwork
 Crane Union High School
 Crater High School
 Crescent Valley High School
 Crockers
 Crooked River National Grasslands
 Curry Public Transit
 Dallas High School
 Dan Benjamin Home Repair & Construction
 Deschutes County
 Deschutes National Forest
 Dick Hing
 Don Cree Logging
 Ducks Unlimited Inc.
 Eugene Parks & Recreation
 Eugene Public Works
 Eugene, City of
 Fairview, City of
 Falls City High School
 FFA
 Florence, City of
 Food for Lane County
 Fort Stevens State Park
 Fort to Sea Trail
 Fort Yamhill State Park
 Fossil Grade School
 Fossil High School
 Fossil, City of
 Friends of Opal Creek
 Friends of the Willamette River
 Friends of Trees
 Frisbee Golf Course
 Glacier NW Rock
 Gates, City of
 Gearhart, City of
 George Fox University
 Georgia Pacific
 GI Joes
 Gilchrist School
 Gilliam County Commission on Children and Families
 Gilliam County Fairgrounds
 Gilliam County Juvenile Department
 Gilliam County Road Department
 Gilliam County Weed Department
 Grand Canyon Trust
 Grand Ronde Bird Club
 Grande Rhonde Watershed
 Grant County Alternative Education Center
 Grant County Commission on Children and Families
 Grant County Court, Fairgrounds, Snowballers
 Grant County Front Runners
 Grant County Juvenile Department

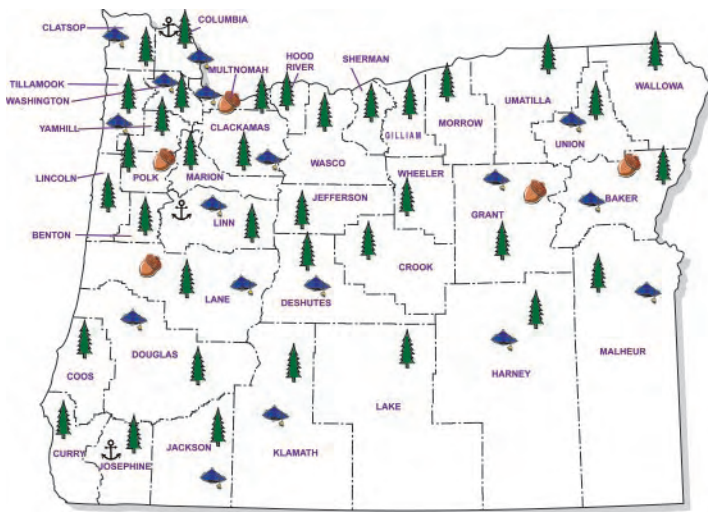
2006 PARTNERS (continued)

Grant Training & Employment Consortium
 Gresham, City of
 Griddle Ranch/Root Ranch
 Haelan Projects
 Harney - Malheur Community Action Agency
 Harney County Commission on Children and Families
 Harney County Court
 Harney County Juvenile Department
 Harney Training & Employment Consortium
 Heart of Oregon
 Hermiston, City of
 Hood River County Juvenile Department
 Hood River Valley High School
 Hynix Semiconductor America
 Integral Youth Services
 Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve
 Jackson County Expo and Fair
 Jacksonville Woodmans Association
 Jeff Frazier-Chevron
 Jefferson Nature Center
 Jeld-Wen Foundation
 Job Corps
 John Day Parks and Recreation
 Joseph Stewart State Park
 Josephine County Fairgrounds
 Josephine County Parks Department
 Josephine County Sherriff
 Kelly Lumber
 Kiger Baseball
 Kiwanda Community Center
 Klamath Basin Ecosystem Foundation
 Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust
 Klamath Bird Observatory
 Klamath County Court
 Klamath County Library
 Klamath County Museum
 Klamath Falls Code Enforcement
 Klamath Falls Parks & Recreation
 Klamath Falls Planning Department
 Klamath Falls Schools
 Klamath Falls Water District
 Klamath-Lake Employment Training Institute (KLETI)
 Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area
 Lane County Fair Board
 Lane County Parks
 Lane Metro Youth Corps
 Lane Workforce Partnership
 Les Schwab
 Lincoln County Court
 Lincoln County Fairgrounds
 Lincoln County Watershed Council
 Linkville Academy
 Linn County Court
 Looking Glass Job Center
 Luther Square/Plum Ridge Care Center
 Malheur County Commission on Children and Families
 Malheur County Economic Department
 Malheur County Juvenile Department
 Malheur County Sheriff's Office
 Malheur Education Center
 Malheur ESD
 Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
 Malheur Training & Employment Consortium
 Management & Training Corporation
 Mark Summers
 Master Gardener/Rotary Club
 Mazamas
 Meadowlark Manor
 Metro Parks & Greenspaces
 Mid-Coast Watershed Council
 Mid-Columbia Council of Governments
 Mill City, City of
 Monument Soil & Water Conservation District
 Moro Junior/Senior High Schools
 Moro, City of
 Morrow County Public Works
 Mt. Hood Community College
 Mt. Hood National Forest
 Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
 Multnomah Education Service District
 Multnomah Youth Cooperative
 National Forest Foundation
 National Parks Service
 Nestucca Connections
 Nestucca School District 101
 Nestucca Valley Anglers
 Nestucca Valley Lions Club
 Newberg Job & Career Center
 North Curry Families and Children's Center
 Northwest Health Foundation
 Northwest Youth Corps
 NW Regional Education Service District
 Oakridge School District 76
 Ochoco National Forest
 OHSU Extension Services
 Ontario Parks
 Ontario Police Department
 Ontario, City of
 Opal Creek Education Center
 Open Meadow Alternative Schools
 Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
 Oregon Department of Education
 Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
 Oregon Department of Forestry
 Oregon Department of Human Services
 Oregon Department of Transportation
 Oregon Employment Department
 Oregon Food Bank
 Oregon Hunter's Association
 Oregon National Guard
 Oregon Parks & Recreation Department
 Oregon Snowmobile State Association
 Oregon State Marine Board
 Oregon State University
 Oregon State University Extension Offices
 Oregon State University Hatchery Research Center
 Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
 Oregon Youth Authority
 Oregon Zoo
 OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center
 OYCC Advisory Committee
 OYCC, Inc.
 Pacific Tree Climbing Institute
 Pangaea Project
 Pennick Home Projects
 Philomath High School
 Phoenix School of Roseburg
 Pine Creek Ranch
 Port of Alsea
 Port of Newport
 Port of Port Orford




2006 PARTNERS (continued)

Port of Portland
 Port of St. Helens
 Portland Bureau of Environmental Service
 Portland Bureau of Housing and Community
 Development
 Portland General Electric
 Portland Parks & Recreation
 Portland Public Schools
 Portland State University
 Portland Water Bureau
 Portland, City of
 Preston Gates Ellis
 Providence Child Center
 Ray Branch Equipment
 Reynolds School District 7
 Riddle Charter School
 Roaring River Tree Farm
 Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation
 Rogue Community College
 Ron and Barb Adams
 Rural Oregon Partnership for Employment
 Santiam Canyon School District
 Santiam Job & Career Center
 Scappoose Bay Watershed Council
 Scappoose School District
 School District 4J
 Schoolhouse Supplies
 Seaside Chamber of Commerce
 Seaside High School Boosters
 Seaside School District
 Sheridan High School
 Sherman County Court, Fair Board, Historical Museum
 Sisters School District
 Siuslaw National Forest
 Sojourn Theatre
 SOLV
 South Coast Business Employment Co.
 South Coast Watershed Council
 South Pacific Elementary School
 South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
 Spray Schools
 Springfield, City of
 SRI Shapiro
 St. Helens School District 502
 St. Helens, City of
 Standard Insurance
 Starker Forests, Inc.
 Start Making a Reader Today (SMART)
 Sumpter Valley Dredge State Park & Friends
 Survivor's Leadership Camp
 SWOYA Boys & Girls Club
 Taylor Auto Outlet
 Team SYNERGO
 Terra Nova Conservation Corps
 The Job Council
 The Nature Conservancy
 The Oregon Consortium
 The Oregon Garden
 The Trail Blazers
 The Wetlands Conservancy
 The Work Connection
 Thomason Auto Group
 Tigard/Tualatin School District
 Tillamook Estuaries Partnership
 Tillamook County Charter School
 Tillamook County Dairy Farmers
 Tillamook County Health Department
 Tillamook Education Consortium
 Tillamook PUD
 Tillamook School District 9
 Tillamook, City of
 Toyota Motors, Inc.
 Troutdale, City of
 Trust Management Services, LLC
 Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District
 Umatilla - Morrow ESD
 Umpqua National Forest
 Umpqua Training & Employment
 Union County Commission on Children and Families
 Union County Court
 Union County Juvenile Department
 Union County Schools
 Union Training & Employment Consortium
 Union-Baker Alternative School
 Union-Baker ESD
 Upper Nehalem Watershed Council
 Upper Rogue Area Training & Education
 US Bureau of Land Management
 US Environmental Protection Agency
 US Forest Service
 US Geological Service
 Vale Union High School
 Vale, City of
 Vernonia, City of
 Wallowa Band Nez Perce Interpretive Center
 Wallowa County
 Wallowa Lake Marina
 Wallowa Lake State Park
 Wallowa Mountain Zone
 Wallowa Resources
 Wallowa Training and Employment Consortium
 Wasco County
 Water Ready
 Western Oregon Waste
 Weyerhaeuser Company
 Wheeler County Court and Road Department
 Wheeler County Fairgrounds
 Wheeler County Parks
 WILCO
 Wildlife Images
 Willamalane
 Willamette ESD
 Willamette Mission State Park
 Willamette National Forest
 Willamina High School
 WING WATCHER
 Wolftree
 Wolverine Chasis
 Worksystems Inc.
 Yamhill County Community Corrections
 Yamhill County Juvenile Department
 Yamhill County Parks
 Yamhill County Personnel Department
 Youth Transition Program

*Our warmest appreciation to all of our supporters.
 We could not have done it without you!*



MAP KEY

-  OYCC Summer Conservation Corps (SCC) Grant Recipients
-  Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) Grant Recipients
-  Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) Grant Recipients
-  OYCC Community Stewardship Corps (CSC) Programs

2006 Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Programs

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Plant identification
- First aid training
- Tool & workplace safety
- Wildlife identification
- Water quality monitoring
- Riparian & wetlands restoration Systems
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Statistics
- Geology
- History
- Mathematics
- Blueprint reading
- Writing
- Conflict management

PROJECTS COMPLETED

- Noxious weed eradication
- Invasive species removal
- Native plantings
- GIS/GPS surveying
- Fence building
- Trail construction and maintenance
- Collection of insects & native seeds
- Landscaping
- Construction
- Painting
- Cultural activities
- Community activities

PARTICIPANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dropout recovery & graduation
- Pride and ownership in their communities
- Self esteem and self discipline
- Respect for self and others
- Reliability
- Personal accountability
- Leadership skills

“I’m doing much better in this program than in traditional school. I have better grades because I actually go to school every day instead of skipping.”