



Now Hiring Youth Conservation Corp Crew Members

Wild Arizona, in partnership with the Coronado National Forest's Douglas Ranger District, is announcing its six-week summer residential Youth Conservation Corps program for 2024.

We are seeking high school students who enjoy the outdoors and are interested in conservation. Students should apply if they would like to get paid to live and work with their peers, camp and backpack to remote areas in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona, and learn the skills required to maintain and restore wildland hiking trails.

The YCC Program:

- Is a 6-week Residential program, from June 9 to July 21, 2024 — participants must be available to stay on site for the duration of the program.
 - Any exceptions to this timeframe must be approved before arrival at the program.
- Is supervised by experienced Wild Arizona crew leads, assistant crew leads, and program proctor.

- Teaches skills both in trail building and land stewardship, fosters written and verbal reflection on ecological issues, and teaches students how to thrive both as an individual and in a group living arrangement.

Crew Members:

- Will learn trail work and other recreation management skills, including the safe handling of hand tools and their use in maintaining hiking trails.
- Will live in close proximity to one another in a Forest Service facility during the weekends and in tents during some or all of the work weeks.
- Will take turns meal planning and preparing meals for thirteen or more people.
- Will develop teamwork and leadership skills under the guidance of Wild Arizona staff.
- Will work alongside other high school students.
- Will hone practical outdoor skills.
- Will become more knowledgeable about local plant and animal species.
- Will participate in guided discussions about the role of humans in stewarding public lands.
- Will write two or three paragraphs daily in their personal YCC journal.
- Will participate in work activities led every Friday by local/regional Forest Service staff.
- Will become well versed in the variety of career options available in the Forest Service.
- Will learn about the indigenous peoples who have historically inhabited the land.

The Ideal Crew Member:

- To be age eligible, an applicant's 15th birthday must be no later than June 9, 2024 and 18th birthday no earlier than July 21, 2024.
- Is a current high school student or recent graduate.
- Demonstrates leadership skills and a willingness to work hard.
- Participates with extracurricular groups or volunteer organizations.
- Likes working and living with people in close quarters for an extended period of time.
- Is able to stay in honest communication with both fellow crew members and those in leadership.
- Enjoys spending time outdoors and is comfortable spending lengths of time in the backcountry and away from home.
- Wants to learn more about natural history and ecology.
- Is willing to invest time in daily journaling.

Program Dates

The program will run from June 9 to July 21, 2024, arriving June 9 at the Tucson International Airport or the Douglas Ranger District Office in Douglas, AZ, and departing from Tucson or

Douglas on July 21. To be eligible to participate, you must be available for the entire program duration. Any exceptions to full participation in the program must be approved before the program begins.

Compensation & Costs

Crew members will be compensated at the current Arizona state minimum wage rate at the start of the program. The current rate is \$14.35 per hour, for a maximum of 40 hours per week. Payroll is provided via direct deposit twice monthly. Food and housing while in the program are provided at no cost. All travel expenses to and from the Tucson International Airport (or Douglas Ranger District Office in Douglas, AZ if dropping off in person) from each crew member's home will be the responsibility of the crew member and their family. All other travel during the 6-week program will be provided by Wild Arizona and the U.S. Forest Service.

Crew members are responsible for providing their own gear, including work clothing and camping equipment. For a full gear list, please visit <https://www.wildarizona.org/ycc> and click on **download the required gear list**. If you are interested in participating and do not have some of the required equipment, please reach out to us about the possibility of borrowing gear.

How to Apply

Please visit <https://www.wildarizona.org/ycc> and click on **submit your application** to *fill out the electronic application*.

Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2024. Those selected to move on in the application process will be interviewed throughout the month of April. Once interviews are completed ten candidates will be chosen and given an offer of employment by April 31st, 2024. Some of the applicants not chosen to participate will be placed on a waiting list, in case of positions opening up before or during the program. If, in the hiring process a person has been removed from consideration they will be informed.

If you have any questions, reach out to Lynne Westerfield at lynne@wildarizona.org

We hope to see you this summer!