



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

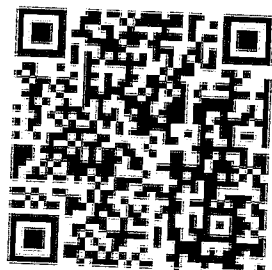
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Oregon Youth Conservation Corps  
Oregon Department of Community Colleges  
and Workforce Development

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Tel: 503-378-8648 • Fax: 503-378-3365

<http://www.oregon.gov/ccwd/Pages/oycc/index.aspx>

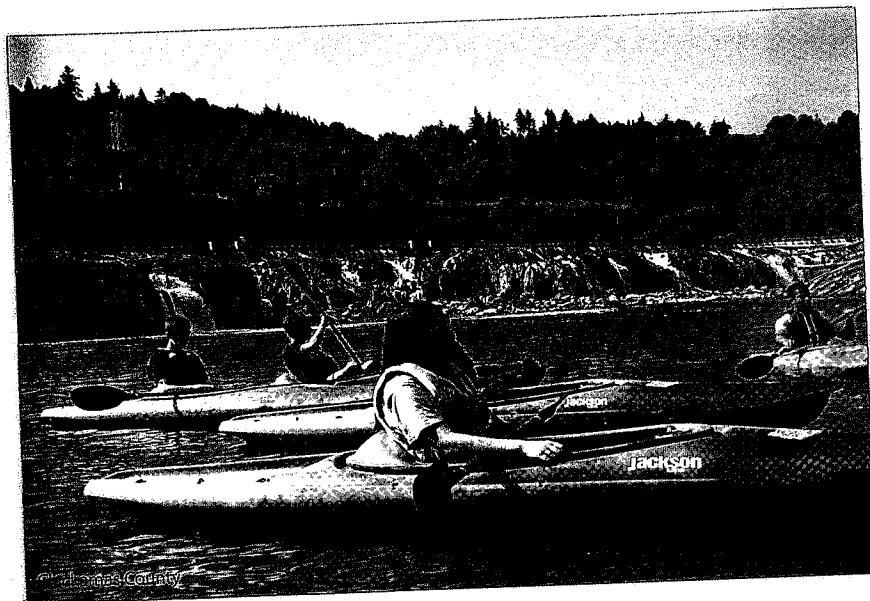


# OREGON YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

## Annual Report 2011-2012



## Corpsmember Insights



"This is a really good opportunity to realize how it is to work."

"This program makes you a better person and a better worker. It pushes your limits and helps you go for gold when it comes to getting the job done."

"The program allowed me to make an impact on my local environment and I gained a love for hiking and spending time in the woods."

"Not only do you gain skills to help get a job, but you have a good time, make money and earn credits."

"OYCC is an excellent opportunity to develop leadership skills, learn how to work in a team environment, to better your sense of responsibility and you get to work outdoors."

## OYCC Advisory Committee

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

Patrick Willis Portland	Representative Sal Esquivel Medford	Maggie Peyton Vernonia
PattiAnn Monzie Hood River	Mary Hoverson La Grande	Vacant
James Straub Eugene	Senator Floyd Prozanski Eugene	Kathy Cancilla Canyon City



"The program was an amazing experience and I would do it all again if given the opportunity."

"It's a great way to get out and experience the outdoors in a new way."

"It's so fun and you learn so much about the environment and meet amazing people."

Pendleton Parks and Recreation	Sisters Ranger District	Wheeler County Soil and Water
Pendleton, City of	Sisters School District	Conservation District
Persephone Farm	Smith Rock State Park	Wilderness International
Phoenix School of Roseburg	SOLVE	Wildlife Images
Pine Eagle High School	South Lane School District	Willamalane Parks and Recreation
Plum Ridge Nursing Home	South Umpqua Rural Community	Willamette Mission State Park
Port of Arlington	Partnership	Willamette Neighborhood Housing
Port of Cascade Locks	Southern Oregon ESD	Services
Port of Garibaldi	Southern Oregon Historical Society	Willamette Riverkeepers
Port of St. Helens	Southwestern Oregon Community	Willamette University
Port Orford Rotary	College	Wing Watchers Bird Trail
Port Orford School District	St. Helens Parks Department	WOAPE
Port Orford, City of	St. Helens School District 502	Wolverines Working For You
Portland Art Museum	St. Helens, City of	Yamhill County Juvenile
Portland Community College	Start Making a Reader Today	Department
Portland Parks & Recreation	(SMART)	Yamhill County Parks
Portland Public Schools	Sterling Bank	Yamhill County Personnel
Portland State University	Stutzman Environmental Products	Department
Portland Water Bureau	Sue McGuire Thompson	Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural
Prairie City Ranger District	Sweet Home Ranger District	Area
Prineville District Bureau of Land	Sweet Home School District	YMCA
Management	SYNERGO	Youth Build USA
Project YESS	Terra Nova Conservation Corps	Zena Demonstration Forest
Radio Tierra	Terry Bouie	Zigzag Ranger District
Rager Ranger Station	The Corps Network	Yamhill County Community
Redmond School District	The Job Council	Corrections
Reynolds School District 7	The Nature Conservancy	Yamhill County Juvenile
Rogue Community College	The Next Door, Inc.	Department
Ron Adams	Theresa Fitzgerald	Yamhill County Parks
Roseburg District Bureau of Land	Tillamook Forestry Center	Yamhill County Personnel
Management	Tillamook Pioneer Museum	Department
Roseburg Parks Department	Tillamook School District 9	Yaquina Head Outstanding
Roseburg, City of	Toledo Community Garden	Natural Area
Salem 4-H Center	Tom Reitman Farm	Yellow Brick Road
Salem District Bureau of Land	Trans Towing	YMCA
Management	U of O Institute for a Sustainable	Youth Transition Program
Salmon Drift Creek Watershed	Environment	Zigzag Ranger District
Council	UCAN Vista Coalition	
Sandy River Basin Watershed	Umatilla National Forest	
Council	Umpqua Community College	
Santiam Canyon School District	Umpqua National Forest	
Santiam Senior Center	Umpqua Watershed Council	
Scappoose Bay Watershed Council	Uncle Foods Diner and Peace House	
Scott Baughman Construction	Upper Deschutes River Coalition	
Senior Center Housing	Upper Nehalem Watershed Council	
Sherman County	US Army Corps of	
Sherman County Commission on	Engineers	
Children and Families	US Bureau of Land	
Sherman County Fairgrounds	Management-Oregon	
Sherman County Historical Society	State Office	
and Museum	US Fish & Wildlife	
Sherman County Public/School	US Forest Service	
Library	USDA Food and Nutrition	
Sherman County RV Park	Service	
Sherman County Science	Vale District Bureau of	
Conservation Camp	Land Management	
Sherman County Senior and	Warrenton Marinas	
Community Center	Wasco County	
Sherman County Soil and Water	Wasco, City of	
Conservation District	Washington State University	
Sherman Elementary School	Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation	
Sherman JR/SR High School	Wheeler County	
Siletz Tribe Charitable Fund	Wheeler County Court	
Singing Falls Sustainable Ranch	Wheeler County Fairgrounds	

We apologize if you  
were inadvertently left  
off the list

## Table of Contents

Message from OYCC	4
Executive Summary	6
Summer Conservation Corps	8
Summer 2012 Highlights	9
Oregon State Marine Board	10
Community Stewardship Corps	11
Education Goals for Oregonians	12
Oregon Youth Employment Initiative	13
Youth River Stewards	14
Bureau of Land Management	15
2011-2012 Partners	16
Advisory Committee	19

## Message from OYCC

*We are excited to present the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps' (OYCC) 2011-2012 Annual Report. This report highlights the achievements and successes from the summer of 2012 and the 2011-2012 school year programs. Each year the funding becomes tighter, partnerships increase and the programs become more creative.*

*OYCC is a program within the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD). OYCC provides grants to local providers to run youth programs across the state serving individuals between the ages of 13 and 25. There are two main programs: the Summer Conservation Corps (SCC) and the Community Stewardship Corps (CSC). SCC programs are typically 6-8 week long summer work programs. CSC school year programs incorporate hands-on field projects with traditional classroom learning. Other programs administered by OYCC include the Youth River Stewards, Employment and Education Partnership, Oregon Youth Employment Initiative and specific grants with funding provided by the Oregon State Marine Board. All six of these programs are highlighted in this report.*

*Along with grants, OYCC provides Crew Leader training with modules specific to the different types of OYCC grants. OYCC also serves as a valuable resource for program development, technical assistance and networking with other youth programs.*

*OYCC is funded primarily through Oregon's Amusement Device Tax via the Oregon Lottery. Additional state funds come from the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB). OYCC also receives federal funds through the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).*

*We hope you enjoy this year's Annual Report!*

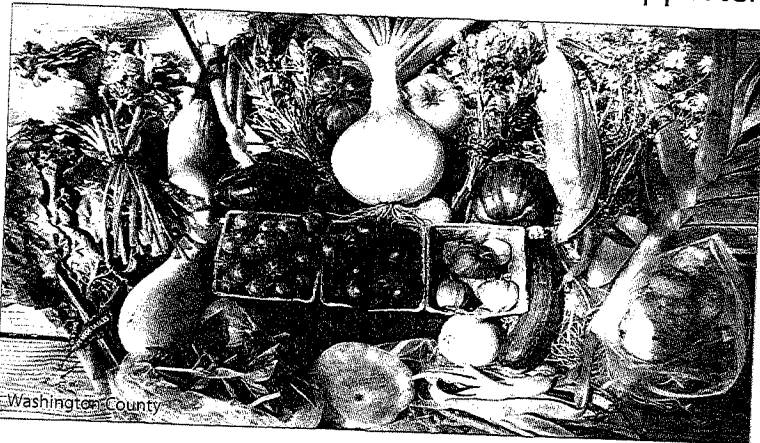
Doug Denning  
OYCC Program Administrator

Jennifer Denning  
OYCC Office Administrator

Douglas County Parks	John and Linda Shelk Foundation	Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp
Douglas Forest Protection Agency	Johnson Creek Watershed Council	Mt. Hood National Forest
Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District	Josephine County Parks Department	Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
Douglas Timber Operators	Kalapuya High School	Multnomah Education Service District
Ecology Center of the Siskiyou	Kelly Lumber	Multnomah Falls Interpretive Center
ECOS Community Garden	Kennedy Conservation Corps	Multnomah Youth Cooperative
Educational Recreational Adventures	Klahre House	National Forest Foundation
Eugene District Bureau of Land Management	Klamath Falls Planning Department	National Forest Service
First Story	Klamath Falls Water Department	Newberry Crater National Monument
Food for Lane County	Klamath Falls, City of	North Coast Land Conservancy
Ford Family Foundation	Klamath Watershed Partnership	North Fork John Day Watershed Council
Forests Forever	Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area	Northwest Youth Corps
Fossil Charter School	Lake Creek Camp	NW Regional Education Service District
Fossil Food Pantry	Lakeview District Bureau of Land Management	Ochoco National Forest
Fremont-Winema National Forest	Lane Community College	Office of the Governor
Friends of Buford Park	Lane County Parks	Old McDonald's Farm
Friends of Hendricks Park	Lane County School Districts	OMSI
Friends of Trees	Lane County Waste Management	Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries
Gilliam County	Lane Metro Youth Corps	Oregon Commission-Historic Cemeteries
Gilliam County Commission on Children and Families	Lebanon School District	Oregon Community Foundation
Gilliam County Court	Lightning B Ranch	Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
Gilliam County Juvenile Department	Limb Walker Tree Service, Inc.	Oregon Department of Education
Gilliam County Maintenance Department	Lincoln County School Districts	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Gilliam County Road Department	Linda Hutchins	Oregon Department of Forestry
Gladstone, City of	Linkville House	Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles
Gold Beach Ranger District	Linn Benton Community College	Oregon Employment Department
Grande Ronde Model Watershed	Little Wheats, inc.	Oregon Food Bank
Grant County Court	Lomakatsi	Oregon Lottery
Grass Valley, City of	Lone Rock Timber Company	Oregon Parks & Recreation Department
Gresham Environmental Services	Long Creek, City of	Oregon Parks Foundation
Gresham, City of	Looking Glass Youth and Family Services	Oregon School for the Deaf
Habitat for Humanity	Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership	Oregon Snowmobile State Association
Haines Alternative School	Malheur County Court	Oregon State Marine Board
Harney County Commission on Children and Families	Malheur National Wildlife Refuge	Oregon State University
Harney County Court	Malinowski Farms	Oregon State University Extension Offices
Harney County Juvenile Department	Management & Training Corporation	Oregon Student Access Commission
Harney County Youth Express	Marion Forks Fish Hatchery	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Harney Training & Employment Consortium	Marion-Polk Food Share	Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
Heart of Oregon Corps	Mazamas	Oregon Youth Authority
Hebo Ranger District	McKenzie River Trust	Oregon Zoo
Hendricks Hill Homeowners Association	Medford District Bureau of Land Management	OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center
Heppner Ranger District	Medford Ranger District	OSU Master Gardeners
High Desert Museum	Medford School District	OSU School of Forestry
Hood River County Health Department	Medford, City of	OYCC Advisory Committee
Hood River County School District	Metro Native Plant Center	OYCC, Inc.
Housing Works	Metro Parks & Greenspaces	Pacific Crest Trail Association
Illinois Valley Watershed Council	Mid-Coast Watershed Council	Pacific Rivers Council
Integral Youth Services	Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council	Partners for Umpqua Rivers
Jackson County Parks and Recreation	Mill City Middle School	
Jane Goodall Environmental Middle School	Mill City, City of	
Jefferson Conservation Corps	Mitchell, City of	
Job Growers	Moro, City of	
	Morrow County Parks	
	Morrow County Public Works	
	Morrow County Sheriff's Department	
	Morrow County Weed Department	
	Mt. Hood Community College	

## 2011-2012 Partners

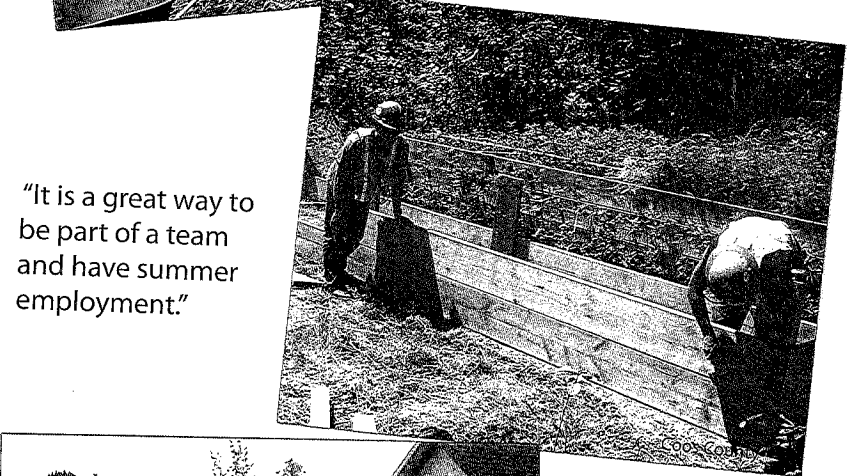
Our warmest appreciation to all of our supporters



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| <p>ABC Huskies Day Care<br/>Acorn Property Management<br/>Allan Bros Coffee Co.<br/>Alpha Conservation Corps<br/>American Canoe Association<br/>American Red Cross<br/>AmeriCorps<br/>Aprovecho Research Center<br/>Arlington School District<br/>Arlington, City of<br/>Association of Oregon Counties<br/>Astoria Parks Department<br/>Avamere Three Fountains<br/>Baker County<br/>Baker County Commission on<br/>Children and Families<br/>Baker County<br/>Baker High School<br/>Baker Ranger District<br/>Baker School District<br/>Baker Training &amp; Employment<br/>Consortium<br/>Baker Youth Community Action<br/>Program<br/>Barlow Ranger District<br/>Beaverton School District<br/>Bend Fort Rock Ranger District<br/>Bend-Lapine School District<br/>Benton County<br/>Big City Mountaineers<br/>Big Star Ranch<br/>Bill Todd Memorial Nursery<br/>Black Rock Mountain Bike<br/>Association<br/>Blue Mountain Ranger District<br/>Boardman Marina<br/>Boardman, City of<br/>Boys and Girls Club of Salem</p> | <p>Burns - Hines Alternative Education<br/>Center<br/>Burns District Bureau of Land<br/>Management<br/>Burns High School<br/>Cal Portland Rock Quarry<br/>Camp Cascade<br/>Camp Sherman<br/>Canby, City of<br/>Career Tech Charter School<br/>Cascade Education Corps<br/>Central Coast Fork Ranger District<br/>Central Medford High School<br/>Central Oregon Community<br/>College<br/>Central Oregon Intergovernmental<br/>Council<br/>Central Oregon Latino Partnership<br/>Centre de recherches Sur Les<br/>Ecosystems d'Altitude<br/>Certified Personnel Service Agency<br/>Clackamas Community College<br/>Clackamas County Juvenile<br/>Department<br/>Clackamas Ranger District<br/>Clatsop County<br/>Clatsop County Soil and Water<br/>Conservation District<br/>Coast Guard Auxillary<br/>Columbia County Parks<br/>Department<br/>Columbia County Soil and Water<br/>Conservation District<br/>Columbia River Basin Council<br/>Columbia River Gorge National<br/>Scenic Area<br/>Columbia River Youth Corps<br/>Columbia Riverkeeper</p> | <p>Columbia Slough Watershed<br/>Council<br/>Community Action Program of East<br/>Central Oregon<br/>Community Services Consortium<br/>Condon Childcare Center/Head<br/>Start<br/>Condon School District<br/>Condon, City of<br/>Confederated Tribes of Grand<br/>Ronde<br/>Confederated Tribes of Warm<br/>Springs<br/>Coos Bay District Bureau of Land<br/>Management<br/>Coos Watershed Association<br/>Corvallis Farmers Market<br/>Cottage Grove Ranger District<br/>Cottage Grove, City of<br/>Cougar Camp<br/>Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua<br/>Tribe of Indians<br/>Coyote Trail Jefferson Nature Center<br/>Crescent Ranger District<br/>Crook County<br/>Crooked River National Grasslands<br/>Curry County<br/>Curry County Juvenile Department<br/>Dan Benjamin Home Repair &amp;<br/>Construction<br/>Denning Family<br/>Deschutes National Forest<br/>Deschutes State Park<br/>Detroit Ranger District<br/>Douglas County<br/>Douglas County Commission on<br/>Children &amp; Families<br/>Douglas County Lands Department<br/>Douglas County Mental Health</p> |
|---|---|--|



"This program strengthens your ability to work together and have pride in what you do."



"It is a great way to be part of a team and have summer employment."



"It's a great way to learn how to work in landscaping."

## Executive Summary

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) was created by the 1987 Oregon Legislature to emulate the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's.

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

The purpose of the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) as stated in ORS 418.650 to 418.663 is:

- To establish a disadvantaged and at-risk youth work program in order to perform conservation work of public value in the most cost effective manner
- To utilize such a program as a means of needed assistance to protect, conserve, rehabilitate and improve the natural, historical and cultural resources of the state
- To utilize such a program to increase education, training and employment opportunities for disadvantaged and at-risk youth for the purpose of improving work skills, instilling the work ethic and increasing employability

Participants must be Oregon residents and 75% of participants must meet the disadvantaged and at-risk requirement:

"Youth at-risk and disadvantaged are those who may be unable to achieve the educational, economic, or social expectations of their community."

## Bureau of Land Management (BLM)



The BLM/OYCC Employment and Education Partnership is a Cooperative Agreement between OYCC/CCWD and the BLM.

BLM Districts determine the location and types of projects to fund and then notifies OYCC of the opportunity. OYCC posts these opportunities on its website soliciting applications. Interested youth corps providers apply for grant funds to complete the posted projects. The BLM makes the final selection of who is awarded a grant.

Youth must be between the ages of 15 and 24 to participate. All youth must work a minimum of 80 hours each under this agreement to be counted as a youth hired at the Federal level. There is a minimum 25% matching requirement. Regular OYCC funds may be used as match.

Since 2010, OYCC has awarded over \$500,000 in BLM funds. These funds have employed 261 youth and supporting adults, logged 24,973.68 project hours and paid \$219,190 in wages.

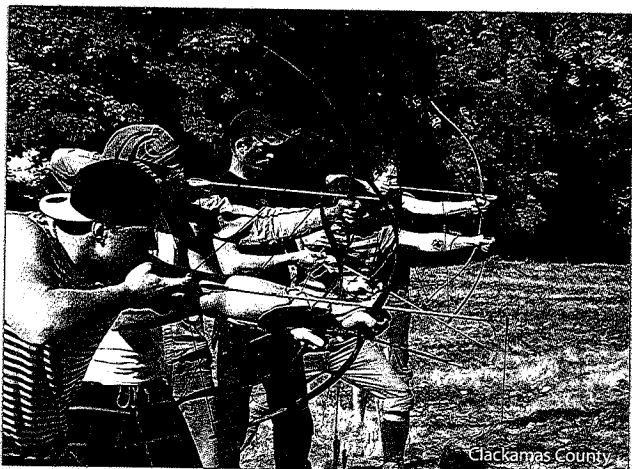


## Youth River Stewards

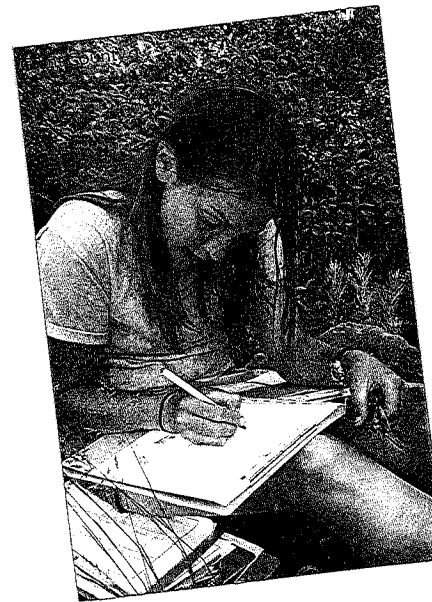
The Youth River Stewards program is a collaborative effort between OYCC, Youth Corps, Inc. and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. It introduces Community Stewardship Corps students to the needs of Oregon's rivers with three day/two night canoe trips on the Willamette River. The goal of the program is to provide insight and education, as well as 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.

This year OYCC contracted with Educational Recreational Adventures (ERA) to provide the education component of this program. In the fall of 2012, three lucky programs were given the opportunity to participate in this adventure. The programs were taught using the full river curriculum ERA developed specifically for this program. Some of the topics discussed include: identifying bird species, the history and importance of the Willamette River Highway, the Missoula Floods, geology, harvesting Wapato and learning how to throw Atlatl Darts and shoot a bow and arrow.

These trips continue to serve as an excellent example of how experiential learning and a natural resources curriculum motivate and captivate students.



"I learned so much from this trip and will always remember it."



"This program is a great way to be part of a team and have summer employment."

"Great opportunities to advance your knowledge in team working and problem solving."



"This is a great opportunity to learn and experience what it's like to work in a garden."



## Summer Conservation Corps

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

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 educational, service and work projects for the Summer Conservation Corps programs.

The demographics for the 2012 Summer Conservation Corps were:

- 35% female, 65% male
- 72% Caucasian, 19% Hispanic, 4% Native American/Alaskan Native, 3% African American, 2% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 0% other



"This program will teach you tool safety, how to work as a team, and definitely teaches you what work is."

## Oregon Youth Employment Initiative (OYEI)

In 2009, the US Forest Service (USFS) granted OYCC, through the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD), \$9.627 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for the creation of the OYEI.

OYEI was a youth employment initiative for individuals ages 15-24. Projects had to fall within the scope of natural resource and conservation education. OYEI was administered by OYCC/CCWD and overseen by the OYEI Advisory and Oversight Committee which include representatives from: USFS, Oregon Governor's Office, Association of Oregon Counties, Oregon Department of Education and Business Education Compact.

During the summer of 2012, the last six grants were awarded for projects specific to the Mt. Hood National Forest. This marked the end of an ambitious program that gave thousands of youth and their families hope during the economic crisis.

As of December 31, 2012, OYCC/CCWD had awarded 297 individual grants to local and regional providers. OYEI funds hired over 4,000 youth and supporting adults, exposed over 25,000 middle/high school students to green issues, recycling and sustainability and had a positive economic effect on every county in Oregon. OYCC is proud to announce that \$6.828 million was paid in wages!

Additional information and data is available at: [www.odccwd.state.or.us/oyei/](http://www.odccwd.state.or.us/oyei/).





## Education Goals for Oregonians

The 2011 Oregon Legislature addressed the significant role education plays in the lives and futures of Oregonians with the passage of SB 253. This piece of legislation established the most aggressive educational completion goals of any state in the nation: by 2025 every Oregon student must earn a high school diploma and 80 percent must continue their education beyond high school- with half earning an associate's degree or certificate and half achieving a bachelor's degree or more. This has come to be known as the "40/40/20" goal.

OYCC participants are on their way to reaching these goals by earning the credit they need to graduate and move toward further education.

During the 2011-12 school year:

- 1,996 high school credits were earned
- 83 diplomas were awarded
- 35 GEDs were awarded
- 290,130 hours of classroom and field instruction were completed
- \$150,919 in scholarships were awarded

Since 1992, OYCC has awarded over \$2.4 million in scholarships.

During the 2011-12 school year, OYCC programs had 704 applicants for 557 positions. Of those accepted into the program, 35.19% have previous or current involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The demographics of those students accepted were:

- 30% female and 70% male
- 76% Caucasian, 14% Hispanic, 4% African American, 5% Native American/Alaskan Native, 1% Asian/Pacific Islander and 0% other

## Summer 2012 Highlights

- 492 youth were accepted out of 1,200 applicants
- 11 youth served as youth Crew Leaders
- \$1.2 million obtained as match at the local level
- 118,622 project work hours completed
- 17.68% of youth have previous or current involvement in the juvenile justice system

\$915,708  
Corpsmember  
wages were paid.

Crew Leaders are an invaluable part of the OYCC crew experience. They are a leader, teacher, role model and are admired and respected by their crew. Crew Leaders help youth gain valuable workforce skills that will stay with them for a lifetime. Crew Leaders report that because of the OYCC experience:

- 97.4% of the Corpsmembers can work as part of a team
- 97.8% of the Corpsmembers have increased their awareness of safe work habits
- 93.9% of the Corpsmembers have more confidence in themselves

Corpsmembers report that because of the OYCC experience:

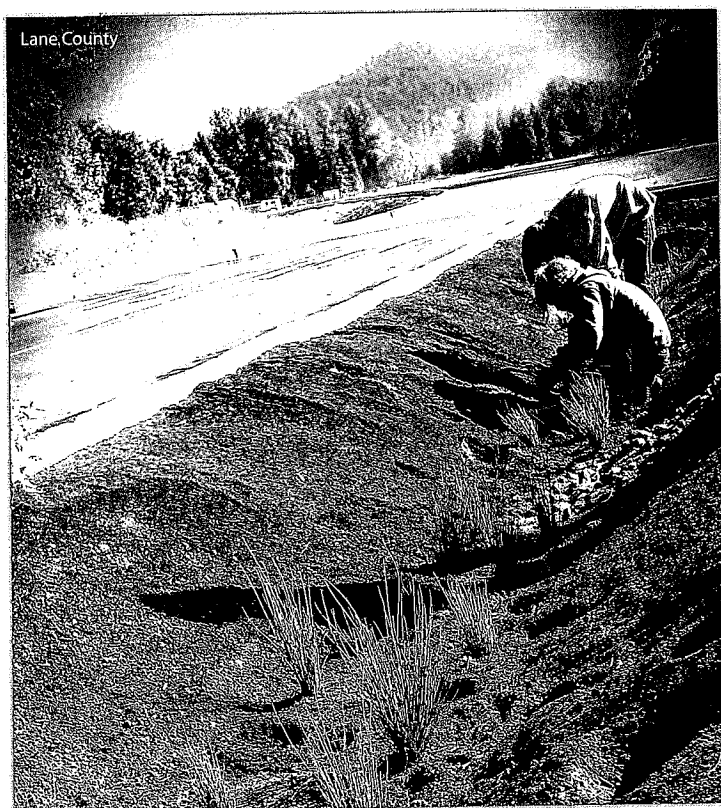
- 98.3% can take responsibility for their actions
- 97.8% have the knowledge and skills to search for and obtain a job
- 95.6% have an interest in furthering their education

"This program teaches you how to push your limits and really shows you what hard work is."

## Oregon State Marine Board Project

Through a Cooperative Agreement the Oregon State Marine Board provided \$55,000 to OYCC for grants during the summer of 2012. This funding is derived from state marine fuel taxes and is to be used for projects that enhance motorized public boating related areas.

One of the programs that received a Marine Board grant this summer was Lane Metro Youth Corps in Eugene. With help from this grant, six youth and four Crew Leaders were hired to help improve Clearwater Park in Springfield. The crew installed a Bioswale (pictured below) along the newly installed boat ramp. A Bioswale is a landscape design intended to trap pollutants from runoff water to prevent them from entering the watershed and/or drain systems.



## Community Stewardship Corps

The Community Stewardship Corps (CSC) is comprised of innovative, community-focused alternative education programs. OYCC partners with 24 alternative education programs statewide. Youth gain valuable education, employment and leadership skills while learning work ethic and environmental knowledge through integrated classroom and field-based learning projects.

Successful CSC programs involve a collaboration of many community organizations. The program is usually a school district, alternative school, education service district or a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) provider. It is essential that programs be connected to the school system and that a method for awarding credit or earning a GED is in place.

Crew activities include natural resource projects such as: trail construction and maintenance, invasive species and noxious weed removal, riparian and wetlands restoration, construction and cultivation of native plant stock. Corpsmembers also participate in 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, SOLVE (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism), local food banks, community gardens, recycling and renovation projects.

"It's a great opportunity to learn skills that will allow me to gain employment after graduating."

"This program was great for helping me get my diploma."

"You get to help your community as a respected person."