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Important Dates

- **November 11th** - Veterans Day Holiday (day off)
- **November 13th** - Elective Training Choices Due to Erin Keith
- **November 21st** - WCC Mini-grants due to Erin Keith
- **November 24th - 28th** Thanksgiving Holiday (days off)
- **December 24th - January 2nd** Winter Break (days off)
- **January 15th** - January newsletter submissions due to Erin Keith



November 2008
 Volume 5, Issue 1
Ecology Publication 08-06-019

Angels with Hardhats

Article by Erin Keith, Outreach Coordinator

When the 2007-08 Washington Conservation Corpsmembers were told at the beginning of their service year that this would not be “just a job”, I don’t think any of them had a clue about what coming their way.

In early December 2007, with the exception of a few, all of the WCC Corpsmembers were sent on a mission to first help minimize the damages from the upcoming storm by stacking thousands of sandbags, and then spend the following months in Southwest Washington, cleaning up the mud, muck, and debris that the flood waters left behind. The storm and flooding caused nearly \$100 million in damages and left hundreds homeless.

In Lewis County as part of the storm clean up, the WCC helped the Ecology spill responders locate, retrieve and transport more almost 3,000 containers, collect more than 850 tires, dispose of more than 3,500 gallons of harmful chemicals, and discarded about 17,000 pounds of oil contaminated debris deposited by floodwaters.

“What these young men and women have accomplished for the people and environment in Washington is immeasurable,” said Gov. Christine Gregoire. “Their selflessness, extraordinarily hard work and commitment are absolutely inspiring. They are to be commended for their fine public service.”

In early July, when record setting rains collapsed a levee on the Iowa River and turned an area miles wide into a river of devastation, two WCC crews left for Oakville, Iowa with less than 24 hours notice. In less than a month, crews cleaned out 25 homes that had been submerged in up to 15 feet of water.

In early September, over 50 WCC members were deployed to the Gulf Coast to assist with the hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana. Crews worked extremely hard assessing damages, blue tarping roofs, delivering supplies, mucking out damaged homes, and assisting in shelters.



Lisa Hernandez was one of many thankful residents of Chauvin, Louisiana for the work of the WCC. “Hurricane Ike flooded our home with four feet of water. When I tell you that it is overwhelming, it truly is,” Hernandez said. “We have had NO assistance from anyone, we have had none-until your ‘angels’ saved us.”

Hernandez said she and her husband had no income for three weeks but heard WCC crews were gutting homes for free. She found crew supervisor, Bob Milner, and asked, “where do I go for help with a home that has mold and mildew crawling up the walls fast?”

A short time later, a WCC crew arrived at Hernandez’s home.

“Before I knew it, trucks pulled up and workers unloaded one after the other continuously until it seemed there was no end. . . . I cry very seldom in my life but this one took my heart. Within 5 minutes, men and women were hauling floor moldings out of my home,” she said. “They began to ‘gut’ our home out and did so with perfect attitudes and respect to me and each other. I never heard a cuss word, I never saw a bad attitude, and they saw me crying and consoled me as well. These guys are my heroes!”

The WCC Corpsmembers-our “angels in hard hats”.

For more information on the WCC's disaster relief efforts, please visit our Emergency Response webpage at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wcc/wcc_emerg.htm.

Words of Wisdom for New Corpsmembers

Article by Lin Kyan, 2008-2009 Snohomish County IP

To the new Corpsmembers, first off I want to say welcome. Glad you can make it. These are some things to keep in mind as you enter into your year here at the WCC.

Whether you're moving a large amount of plants, supplies or whatever, the magic words are "fire line". That means everyone gets in a line standing a few feet from each other and hand off the plants, supplies, or whatever to the next person beside you. Things will get done so much faster this way, trust me, and it's kind of fun.

If you are standing there watching people work, DON'T! Get in there and help out. Our curious tendencies make us observe other people when they back up a trailer or work on a project. Next time you find yourself watching people work, stop and just get things done!

Take advantage of the opportunities WCC provides. Take a class that is interesting to you at the trainings. Go on a spike and/or disaster relief. Do a crew exchange or job shadow with a person in a field you are interested in pursuing. Volunteer with other groups in the community. Ask your supervisor or headquarters staff at the WCC if you have questions. Remember, this is a job

training program so your experience is what you make of it.

The job is not always glamorous. You may spend weeks-on-end brush cutting blackberries or building fences. Things will get old and tiring but that will change. Don't think of yourself as just a laborer getting paid minimum wage; your work is vital for the health of the ecosystem, the community that depends on the natural resources, and the continuation of WCC. You are in a forefront that can actually change the environment to help improve it. Some people just say they want to help the environment and then do nothing, well, you're here so do something about it!

This job can be dangerous. I can't emphasize safety enough. There have been procedures developed to help keep you safe. Use the safety gear that's available. Use me as an example; wear a hard hat every time you use the post pounder. Follow safety protocol. Do whatever you feel is necessary that helps you do your job safely. If you are told otherwise, your safety may be compromised. Stop and reevaluate the situation before you hurt yourself and/or your coworkers.

Okay, enough lecturing. You guys are grown-ups. You know what to do. Have fun this year and good luck.



Lin Kyan

2008

6 month position with the Snohomish County Native Plant Program

2008-2009

Snohomish County Native Plant Program Individual Placement

This year, the WCC has 10 IPs in the program and 120 crew members.

What are Individual Placements, or IPs?

In the WCC, there are 2 types of positions for Corpsmembers, crew positions and individual placement (IP) positions. So each Corpsmember is either placed on a crew with 4 other individuals and a crew supervisor, or they are placed individually with a sponsor. Our sponsors are located statewide and are generally non-profit organizations or local, state, or federal governments. Our IP positions generally require a Bachelor's degree and experience in the environmental field.

Part of a Legacy

Erin Keith, WCC Outreach Coordinator

This year, 2008, marks the year of many milestones for service in Washington State, and YOU are part of that. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Washington Conservation Corps. WCC members have been planting trees and improving streams for longer than most of you have been alive, and now you are here to carry on that legacy of service.



Each year, the Commission for National and Community Service, hosts an AmeriCorps Launch event and invites all Washington State AmeriCorps members to attend. Below is an excerpt from the program at the AmeriCorps Launch, held this year on October 24th:

"America was in the grip of the Great Depression when Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated in 1933. More than twenty-five percent of the population was unemployed, hungry and without hope. Out of this economic chaos emerged the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Its purpose was two-fold - to preserve our natural resources and to offer work to Americans in a time of great instability. But more importantly, it offered citizens the chance to improve the nation's future, while strengthening their own dignity. The work performed by the CCC dramatically changed the future of our country. Today - 75 years later - we still enjoy a legacy of natural resource treasures that mark the American landscape.

In 1983, the Washington State Legislature passed legislation that created the Washington Conservation Corps, modeled after the CCC, and a new initiative, the Washington Service Corps - the first state-funded service program that placed participants in human service and other nonprofit organizations to help address critical community needs.

These programs were operational a full ten years before Congress passed the National and Community Service Trust Act that created AmeriCorps.



Civilian Conservation Corps members work a fire line (circa 1933).

Today, as we celebrate the 15th class of AmeriCorps, it is important that we recognize the Civilian Conservation Corps and the founders of the Washington Conservation Corps and Washington Service Corps programs for building a strong foundation for the legacy of service. Thank you for your contributions that have benefited so many in our state and throughout the nation."

For those who attended the Launch, you heard one of our own WCC members, Perry Onorio, speak to the group of over 800 AmeriCorps members. He shared with us how his previous career in television quickly drove him to search for a more meaningful career and in 2007, he stumbled across the Washington Conservation Corps and knew he had found the right path to follow. He is currently serving his second term with the WCC. In his moving speech, he reminded us all that, "when the world is talking about environmental problems, we (AmeriCorps members) are 'getting things done', and when the world is talking about politics, we are 'getting things done'...". He reminded us all that this is more than 'just a job'; this is an opportunity to do something real and meaningful in your lives and in the lives of the individuals you touch.



Gustav said, "Jump" and I said, "how high?"

Article by Lin Kyan, 2008-2009 Snohomish County Individual Placement

Volunteering in Louisiana was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I knew emergency response was part of the program but I had no idea what that entailed. It was Sunday morning and I got a call from my supervisor about going on emergency response and I didn't hesitate to say yes. That week my crew was scheduled to go on a spike to Mt. Rainier but that plan was shot. After a long day of arguing with my folks, I was finally on my way to SeaTac with my crew. Our flight was at 11:30 pm, Sunday night.



WCC Corpsmembers work together to unload food and supplies.

The next morning, about 5:30 am eastern time, we arrived in Dallas/Fort Worth airport. We caravanned to Shreveport, Louisiana without stopping to rest. The American Red Cross needed our help that day. Evacuees were sheltered in the stadium. We made sand bags and placed them around the stadium doors to prepare for the expected flooding. We also helped unload food and supplies. After lunch (MREs), there was nothing to do but wait for the storm. Although it was cloudy and windy with some rainfall, there was no flood. The stadium was too crowded to stay the night and so Red Cross reserved a place for us at a youth church nearby. We lucked out on accommodations because there were games to keep us entertained, couches to sleep on, and plenty of food.

We continued to help Red Cross prepare and serve food at local shelters and in the stadium. When it was safe to do so, people were allowed to go home. We helped evacuees load their belongings into the buses that took them home.

We disassembled and cleaned hundreds of cots at various shelters. A couple of crews were deployed to Arkansas and Oklahoma City to help break down shelters. My crew and other crews stayed in Shreveport. While we were sanitizing cots at the Red Cross warehouse, the local news filmed us work and interviewed one of my coworkers in my crew. You can see the video clip at this web site, <http://www.ktbs.com/news/Red-Cross-gets-ready-for-Ike-16676/#>. We saw the story on television that evening back at the church and it was not long after that another hurricane arrived, Hurricane Ike.

Our next destination was Baton Rouge which is about 230 miles south east from Shreveport. Our job was to work at a crisis call center. The call center needed help answering calls from people who were affected by hurricane Gustav and Ike. Many people called about power outage, financial support, food, supplies, and emergency food stamps. The difficulty of that experience was that we had the grave yard shift (12 am – 8 am). In addition, none of us were familiar with Louisiana geography and so it was difficult directing people to the right place. Sometimes we didn't have enough information or resources to help. It was tough to say "no, we don't have any vouchers to help pay your bills," or "sorry we don't know when your electricity will return". We could hear desperation in their voices from people who lost everything and needed any kind of assistance they could get. We all wanted to help more but we were limited by the information at hand. This mentally drained us all.

After a grueling week in Baton Rouge, we were ready to move on and help other people. Our third and last destination of the journey was to a city by the coast called Chauvin ("show-vin"). Chauvin and the neighboring city



WCC Corpsmembers and Hope Force International Volunteers tarping a leaking roof.

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Gustav (continued from previous page)

Montegut was where Gustav and Ike landed and caused the most destruction. Many people's homes were completely destroyed. We worked alongside volunteers with a disaster relief organization called Hope Force International. They provided living quarters at a local recreational facility. The water had receded just enough for us to move in. The entire field was still flooded only a few feet away from the gymnasium entrance. I was actually excited to return to physical labor in the hot and muggy weather after the mentally difficult Baton Rouge experience. We were geared with blue and brown tarps, wood, nails, hammers, and ladders to patch leaks on roofs. My crew removed trees that had fallen on houses. Some other crews gutted houses. We witnessed devastation all over the city as we drove from house to house. Many

people were still out of power since Gustav and Ike only extended the time to regain electricity.

Hurricane disasters were nothing new to the community. The community has experienced relentless assaults on their homes from hurricane winds and floods. It's unbelievable that every year across the state, communities expect a hurricane to disrupt their lives. As many people we helped in Louisiana, it's not enough. None of us lived in Louisiana and so we couldn't fully grasp the struggles of the local people. All of us could go back to our comfortable homes but these people were already home. It put my life into perspective living in a state where natural disasters are a rarity.

The Role of Wildlife Rehabilitation in Conservation: Education

Article by Matt Kalman, Bellingham Crew Member

Public education through wildlife rehabilitation can play a key role in increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts. Throughout Washington State, numerous individuals and small groups have devoted their time and efforts to the protection of wildlife that has been disturbed, displaced, or directly injured by increasing encounters with humans. Non-profit, volunteer based rehabilitation centers such as Sarvey Wildlife Center in Arlington, Washington and Sardis Raptor Center in Ferndale, Washington not only support and rehabilitate injured wildlife, but also take the important step of reaching out to the public through educational programs.



exposure to rehabilitation efforts, the public can easily change from enemy to ally, and the cause-ignorance of nature's fragile balance-may be reduced. One of the most powerful means of implementing social or political change is through focused education."

Both Sarvey and Sardis work with the community to build this connection and foster an ethic of stewardship toward nature. The educational programs often focus on discussing the natural history of various animals as well as their role in a healthy ecosystem. The centers discussions then transition into environmental issues that can threaten wildlife, including ways the public can help to lessen negative impacts now and for future generations.

By reaching out to the public and helping to inspire an appreciation of wildlife, we gain support for conservation efforts. This support can be focused towards organizations like Conservation Northwest and towards the protection of habitat and the formation of wilderness corridors that connect important resources for numerous species. It can also be focused toward organizations like the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association and the protection of salmon, which play a key role not only for charismatic predators like Bald Eagles but also for 150 other species.

With the support of an aware and compassionate community, we could greatly enhance the scope and scale of environmental conservation projects and eventually drastically reduce our negative impacts on wildlife.

These programs raise awareness about how activities such as development and ignorance can negatively affect wildlife. By allowing people to get up close and personal to individual animals and listen to their stories, a deep connection is formed between humans and nature. The importance of these educational efforts is not a new realization, in the late 1980's JK Althouse wrote in, "Educate the Public: Change the Future by Using a Wildlife Education Program:"

"The public must become aware of the environmental and wildlife crises it has created. With positive education through

WCC Pays for Valuable Training for All Corpsmembers

Each March and June, the WCC puts on a big training event, and all Corpsmembers are invited to attend. The training events are each 4 days in length, and will occur on March 9th-12th and June 8th-11th. Not only is the training at no cost to you, you will also get paid your normal wages for those weeks. For all Corpsmembers who attend, housing and food accommodations will be provided. This year, we will be offering 8 different training choices, 5 of which result in certifications that could be very useful to you for life after the WCC.

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and Wilderness First Responder (WFR)

If you enjoy the outdoors and are interested in pursuing employment as a river raft guide, wilderness ranger, ski patroller, or a hiking guide this training is for you!



Wilderness First Aid (WFA) is the first component of the highly sought after Wilderness First Responder (WFR) Certification. Upon completing all the requirements of intense eight day training (two 4-day training sessions) you will be issued a Wilderness First Responder (WFR) Certification. This training requires heavy use of your personal time for studying and is very challenging. In addition, if you sign up for the first session, will be obligating yourself to the second session, which is the WFR upgrade session. The training requires you to put in longer than 10 hour days during the training sessions and there will also be homework for the two months leading up to the second session. This additional work will have to be completed on your own (off work, unpaid) time, so be sure to take this into consideration before you sign up for the WFR course.

For those not interested in the WFR Certification but would like to receive their Wilderness First Aid (WFA) Certification, you can sign up for the second session of WFA. Because of the short schedule for this course, the first offering of this course will be very demanding and will require long hours to complete. You will be putting in longer than 10 hour days (without compensation for extra time) to complete this course, so be sure to take this into consideration before you sign up for the second session of the WFA course.

Wildland Firefighter (Red Card) Training, S-130/S-190

Available first session only. This introductory course is designed to train entry-level firefighters, as well as, refresh the structural and Wildland fire fighter. Students will be introduced to and gain



knowledge of the basic incident management organization, fire fighting techniques, suppression equipment, safety, strategy/ tactics, along with fire behavior. Field exercises will be performed for valuable hands-on training. Completion of this training will result in the issuance of the Federal "Red Card" Certification (FFT-2).

Wildland Firefighter, S-212 Power Saws, S-211 Pumps and water use

Available second session only. The 2 day saw class will include classroom presentations and a reasonable amount of hands-on experience with wildland firefighting saw use. These cutting techniques and procedures are applicable throughout the United States. The lessons provide an introduction to the function, maintenance, and use of internal combustion powered chain saws and their tactical wildland fire application. This class is required to begin the process of qualifying as a Faller. The 2 day pumps and water use course will continue the training from the initial wildland firefighter training and expand into operations on an engine crew.



GIS/GPS

This training will feature important tools used in the field of environmental restoration, such as: Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS).



Most people are familiar with GPS units-mostly through recreational sports (fishing, hunting, hiking, geocaching), but this course will explore GPS much more in depth. This course will explain the theory behind GPS, teach members how to collect data using the

Trimble GeoXT, (a sophisticated, highly accurate field unit used by environmental professionals) and explore real-world applications.

This course will also feature an introduction to GIS, the heavily used cartographic software designed to allow a visual interpretation of field data, such as the data that you collect with a GPS unit.

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Training (continued from previous page)

Introduction to Wetlands and PFC

This training will provide a 2-day introduction to wetlands. The curriculum is currently being developed but may include identification of Pacific Northwest native and invasive wetland and upland species along with the basic function of wetlands.



This training will also provide information on Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). PFC is a technique used to identify whether a riparian-wetland area is physically functioning in a manner which will allow the maintenance or recovery of desired values, (e.g. fish habitat, neotropical birds, or forage, over time). PFC is a useful tool for prioritizing restoration activities, providing a picture of watershed health (as well as determining the possible factors affecting the health), and offering a consistent approach for assessing the physical functioning of riparian-wetland areas through consideration of hydrology, vegetation, and soil/landform attributes.

Hazardous Materials and Safety Training (HAZMAT)

This course is designed to teach participants to recognize and reduce their exposure to hazardous materials. This training meets and



exceeds Washington State standards where hazmat training is a requirement for qualification for employment. This training course is highly sought after by Corpsmembers and the instructors are highly trained and qualified—certainly a favorite during the training weeks.

Ethnobotany

Ethnobotany is the study of how people of a particular culture and region make use of indigenous plants. Ethnobotanists explore how plants are used in those cultures and regions. Learn how to confidently and safely identify, gather, and prepare wild edible meals. You will become acquainted with the wild edible plants that thrive around us while spending time in the field identifying and collecting them. “Survival” and “gourmet” cuisine will be explored using wild plants. The course covers identification, food and medical uses of native plants as well as historical Native American uses. There is also a session on using natural fibers for weaving and cordage and the course culminates with a wild foods feast featuring steam pit cooked fresh trout and items prepared by the students.



All Corpsmembers must submit their 1st and 2nd choices for each training session to their crew supervisors or IP coordinator by **November 13th** in order to reserve their spot in the classes of their choice.

WCC Puzzles

Play and win prizes!

It is certainly time to get them out, so how many words can you create by using only the letters in the word:

EARMUFFS

The person with the most words submitted to Erin Keith (ercu461@ecy.wa.gov) by November 21 wins a prize!!



The Leaflet

Article by: Duffy Trails

As the vibrant colors of fall begin to be washed from the reaching branches of our deciduous trees, the reality of another wet season begins to soak into our thoughts. With the coming of winter many WCC crews will be shifting their focus to the planting season. Raingear will become a second skin and the lugged soles of leather work boots will become caked with mud and clay from newly turned earth. Many of us who enjoy spending a lot of our personal time outdoors in the warmer drier months, shift our activities to the comfort of indoor activities. While having a job that requires us to be outdoors provides the opportunity to remain active and healthy, both physically and mentally, I try to continue to spend some personal time outside. With the proper gear and knowledge, outdoor activities during the wettest winter seasons can be quite rewarding.



This column typically focuses on edible uses of native plants. Even the most resistant of us to eating foods not procured at local supermarket shelves will enjoy a summer blackberry or Huckleberry from time to time. However, at this time of the year most of our berries are but a distant memory of sweet sunny flavors now washed away by the grey reign of winter. However, there are still some lingering fruits to be enjoyed as the rains set in. Just last weekend I enjoyed some lingering Blue Elderberries, Salal berries, Red Huckleberries, Rose hips, and Oregon Grape. Try collecting these and adding them into ash cakes cooked directly on the hot coals of your campfire.

Ash cakes are made using a simple mixture of flour and water. Wet the flour only enough to be able to form flat cakes of dough that aren't sticky and they are ready to be placed directly onto a bed of hot coals. Use foil if you don't like the idea of brushing ashes from your cooked cake.

You can be as creative as you like by adding berries or other ingredients; use your imagination and take advantage of any edibles around camp. Another option is to wrap the dough around a stick and cook it by holding the dough above the fire. When



Mmmm...ash cakes.

cooked simply remove the cake from the stick and fill the hole with berries you have gathered.

I am always eager to undertake the challenges of fire starting during the wettest of seasons. It is very rewarding to enjoy a fire made in the middle of a rain soaked camp using only fuels gathered nearby. If you know where to look, dry materials abound even in the wet Washington winters. Last weekend I gathered tinder harvested from a rotting Douglas Fir stump leaning over to shelter the lower underside completely from the rain. Western Red Cedar is another good source of dry tinder by shredding the bark. Also, look for dead branches still attached to the trees, standing dead snags, or branches propped up above the ground for useful winter fuel. A good judge is that if a piece of wood is light in weight for its size it will most likely be dry enough to burn even though the outside appears to be wet. Use a hatchet to split it open to expose the dry material.

Another good resource for firestarting is tree sap, or resin, from most of our Pacific Northwest conifers. The resin provides a plentiful source of highly combustible and waterproof material with many uses. Coniferous trees such as Spruces, Firs, and Pines often weep these resins, sometimes referred to as pitch, from wounds in their bark. This resin protects the wounds from attack from insects and infections.



Pitch glue.

Compounds contained in these resins are also useful to humans in a similar way. Using the resin on a wound such as a cut is a great way to seal it from infection and aid healing. Adding this resin to tinder for fire starting will make it burn longer and hotter, allowing more time for the larger material to catch flame. I collect this resin in an old tin cup that I can heat next to the fire into a thinner liquid which can be filtered and worked into a purer form for other uses such as glue, chewing gum, water proofing, incense, torches, and insect repellent. The smoke produced from burning spruce cones which are full of this resin is a great way to deter insects.

Using these resins in making glue can be a fun project and can be quite useful. All you need to make a good quality natural glue is some resin (sticky or hardened), powdered charcoal from your fire, and some ground plant material (dry dung from vegetarian animals such as rabbits, deer, or elk works very well and saves you the task of grinding these materials yourself). After collecting a good amount

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Leaflet *(continued from previous page)*

of resin from trees into my tin cup, I sit it near the fire to heat up. Be careful, as the resin heats up the vapors become very flammable and can ignite easily. If this happens, simply have a flat object available to smother the flames by capping the cup. Also, be sure not to breathe the smoke or vapors given off from the resin as they can be irritating. When the resin has thinned enough to mix with the plant fibers and charcoal, stir in the charcoal and ground plant material. A good starting ratio I find is about:

5 Parts melted resin

1 Part powdered charcoal

1 Part ground plant material

As you stir the ingredients the glue becomes a thick, black, tar-like substance that is very sticky. You will find that the glue mixture stiffens very quickly upon removal from the heat source but becomes soft again as heat is applied. To use the glue simply heat up as much as you need and apply it to the material you wish to bind. Heating the material a bit can yield better results when possible.

I hope that some of this information might spark you to get out there in the winter wetness and continue to enjoy the challenges and rewards that year-round outdoor activity can provide. Perhaps on a Thursday after work, leave those work boots and raingear on, load up the rest of your gear, and find a good spot for the next few days to experiment with some of the ideas above. Just be sure to gather all of your materials in an ethical manner and remember to clean up after yourself and others in order to leave no trace.

WCC Corpsmember Distribution List

The WCC distribution list is an email mailing list that will be used to share messages with you directly. The WCC headquarters staff will use this list to deliver you opportunities for crew exchanges, volunteer opportunities, newsletter article requests, to deliver this quarterly newsletter, keep you updated on WCC events and training information, and ask for your opinions on certain subjects. You will also be able to deliver messages to other Corpsmembers in the program.

If you did not sign up at the New Member Orientation Training, and you want to be on this list, please just send an email to wcc.update@ecy.wa.gov and your email will be added to the list!

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Appear in Corps News!

Seeking articles, creative writing, and artwork. Please send your work to Erin Keith at ecru461@ecy.wa.gov or Snail mail to WCC Headquarters by the quarterly due date:

- April 15: Spring
- July 15: Summer
- October 15: Fall
- January 15: Winter

About Our Organization

The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1983 as a service program for young adults between the ages of 18-25. The WCC is a program offered through the Washington State Department of Ecology and continues the legacy started by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. The WCC has been an AmeriCorps Program since 1994.

The WCC provides work experience and skills to members through projects that support conservation, rehabilitation, and enhancement of Washington's natural, historic, environmental and recreational resources. Today, the WCC has nearly 150 members working on various projects in every part of the state. Our partners include Federal, State, Local, and Tribal organizations. For more information, please visit our website.

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call 360-407-7248. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.