

Summer of Service 2025

Service Description



AmeriCorps Position Title:

Host Site: Summer of Service Team Member (9 positions)
Address: Conserving Carolina
Phone: 847 Case St. Hendersonville, NC 28792
Fax: 828-697-5777
Website: 828-697-2602
www.conservingcarolina.org

Conserving Carolina's mission is to protect, restore, and inspire appreciation of the natural world.

Conserving Carolina's AmeriCorps Project Conserve Summer of Service is a program that engages young adults between the ages of 17 and 21 in meaningful service in western North Carolina. With direction from the Summer of Service Coordinator, industry professionals, and staff, the team of 9 members will serve the community through a variety of outdoor projects including wildlife habitat restoration, trail building, stream restoration, and more. While enhancing and maintaining natural areas, members will build confidence in the outdoors, their leadership ability, and life skills development to help prepare them for what comes next.

Members will complete projects throughout Henderson, Haywood, Transylvania, Polk, and other adjacent counties. Transportation from the Conserving Carolina office to the service sites will be provided.

No outdoor experience is necessary. Black, Indigenous, and people of color are encouraged to apply, and area residents are preferred.

Service Term Commitment:

Members must serve a minimum of 100 hours over 6 weeks from June 16, 2025 – July 23, 2025. The schedule will average 18 hours (or 3 days: generally, Monday-Wednesday) per week. Every effort will be made to set the schedule at least 2 weeks in advance, however there may be some fluctuation depending on projects, partners, and weather. Some evenings and weekends may be required.

Benefits:

In addition to training, members will receive a \$1,500 living stipend over 6 weeks, paid in three installments. Upon successful completion of the program, members will also receive an AmeriCorps education award of \$416.17 that can be used to pursue higher education.

Eligibility

- At least 17 years of age and no older than 21 years of age at the start of the program
- Parental (or legal guardian) consent to participate (if under 18)
- Pursuing a high school diploma or GED, or a recent high school graduate
- AmeriCorps positions require individuals to be citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident aliens of the United States, and consent to and be cleared through the National Service criminal history check process. ***Individuals who are not legal US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents are still encouraged to apply. A limited number of non-AmeriCorps positions are available, dependent on funding***
- Be able to provide valid photo ID, social security card, and proof of high school/GED enrollment or graduation
- Be able to fulfill the essential functions of the assigned work with or without reasonable accommodation. Upon request, we will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations. These requests are confidential and will only be shared with the necessary staff to accommodate the request.

Qualifications – Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- No experience is required
- Commitment to safety, health, and well-being of the team, the natural environment, and the surrounding community
- Actively committed, willing, and able to work on physically demanding projects in the outdoors
- Applicants should have an interest in trying new things and be willing to challenge oneself for the sake of growth
- Motivated, curious, and open minded
- Willingness to learn and follow all AmeriCorps and Summer of Service policies
-

Position Responsibilities and Duties

- Participate in all Summer of Service activities and trainings (including but not limited to Orientation, First Aid/CPR/AED, Safety precautions, etc.)
- Participate in team building exercises and individual/group check-ins
- Complete required paperwork including timesheets, evaluations, and exit paperwork
- After receiving proper instruction and guidance, you will:
 - Build and maintain trails on public lands
 - Conduct non-native and invasive species remediation on public lands
 - Plant native species on public lands

Essential Functions*

- **Equipment / Software Used:** Hand tools including loppers, pruners, handsaws, shovels, rakes, etc., and computer. Training provided.
- **Physical Demands:** Hiking up to 1-3 miles, standing, walking, lifting, bending, digging, working outdoors in summer weather conditions
- **Transportation Needs:** Need to provide their own transportation to the Conserving Carolina office
- **Setting / Location of Service Activities:** 20% office/training, 80% field/hands-on activities

***Essential functions** are the fundamental job duties:

- *Meaning the position exists to perform the function*
- *There is a limited number of employees among whom the performance of the function can be distributed; and/or the incumbent is hired for expertise or ability to perform the function due to its high specialization*

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and associated Federal regulations protect qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in all areas of employment. To be considered qualified; an individual must be able to perform the essential functions of a position, with or without reasonable accommodation. It is important that the physical tasks associated with the essential functions be identified appropriately so that persons with disabilities can determine if any accommodation is necessary.