



2021 Youth Conservation Corps Summer Internship Program Fact and Information Sheet

What is the Youth Conservation Corps Summer Internship Program? “YCC” is an 8-week long internship experience during the summer for current college students who are interested in contributing to the valuable conservation projects ongoing in Forbes State Forest. The program is intended to develop a unique understanding and appreciation of our local natural resources and encourage students who are interested in pursuing a career in an environmental or related field. This program has been conducted each summer in our area for more than 30 years!

YCC is sponsored and organized by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry – Forbes District in partnership with the Loyalhanna Watershed Association. Funding for the program is generously provided by the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation.

What are the Goals and Objectives of the Program? YCC interns will accomplish needed conservation projects in the state forest and other recreational sites, natural areas and outdoor facilities available to the public. Examples of projects include constructing new recreational trails, walking bridges and observation platforms, resurfacing and maintaining existing trails, installing wildlife nesting structures, conducting wildlife habitat improvement projects, maintaining and constructing informational signs, and implementing stream and pond improvement projects and invasive plant control.

YCC interns will also have many opportunities to participate in exciting outdoor activities throughout the summer, aside from conservation projects. Activities may include electrofishing, macroinvertebrate collections, caving, camping, and many other fun environmental education opportunities from GPS use to tree identification.

Program Details: The 2021 YCC crew will consist of six interns selected through a competitive application and interview process. An adult crew chief from the Loyalhanna Watershed Association and DCNR staff will provide leadership and supervision throughout the program. Interns will act as registered “Conservation Volunteers” through the DCNR Bureau of Forestry, and will participate in various conservation projects for 8 weeks **beginning June 14 and ending August 6, 2021**. The crew will work Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, with no evening or weekend work. After successful completion of the program, each YCC intern will be awarded a \$2,500 scholarship to further their education. Scholarships will be paid directly to the college, university, technical school or other post-secondary institution by the Loyalhanna Watershed Association.

Job Requirements: Interns must be able to: follow safety instructions and program guidelines, negotiate through rough and uneven terrain on foot, work outdoors for extended periods of time on a regular basis in varying weather conditions, work independently or in groups on assigned tasks when clear instructions and supervisory follow-up are provided, effectively and safely use a variety of hand tools. COVID-19 policies, including daily health screening and mask wearing while in vehicles, indoors, or in situations where six-feet of social distancing cannot be maintained, will be required. Crewmembers are eligible to receive the full scholarship amount of \$2,500 after successful completion of the program. Each crewmember is able to take up to 3 personal days during the length of the program to be eligible for the full grant award. If more than 3 days are missed, the scholarship award will decrease by \$100 each additional day missed. In addition, interns must provide their own transportation to and from the Loyalhanna Watershed Association's office, located in Ligonier, PA, each workday. Transportation to the work sites in Forbes State Forest will be provided.

To Apply: Interested applicants should complete a 2021 YCC Summer Internship Program Application and return it, along with a current resume/transcript, to the attention of Susan Huba, Executive Director, Loyalhanna Watershed Association, 6 Old Lincoln Highway West, Ligonier, PA 15658. Applications may also be emailed to susan@loyalwater.com. **Deadline to apply is April 30, 2021.**

Eligible applicants will be contacted to schedule a brief interview via Zoom after applications are reviewed.



YCC 2021

Youth Conservation Corps Internship Application



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School attending: _____ Year (freshman, sophomore, etc.): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: M ___ F ___ Prefer not to say ___

1. Why are you interested in participating in the Youth Conservation Corps Internship Program this summer?

2. What do you feel you can contribute to this year's YCC Crew? Why should you be selected over other candidates?

3. Describe four character qualities you possess that would make you a good candidate for this internship?

4. What are your future educational or career plans?

5. What other current activities, hobbies or experiences have you had that could relate to this internship experience?

6. Do you meet and agree to all of the eligible criteria listed on the program's Fact and Information Sheet?

7. As this program is an unpaid internship program, are you considering any other summer employment? If so, are you prepared to fully commit to the internship program Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm?

8. Do you have any plans for the summer, such as a vacation or college visit, that would take you away from the program for more than three days? If so, when?

9. Any additional comments?

Please return this completed application form and a current copy of your resumé/transcript to:

Susan L. Huba
Executive Director
Loyalhanna Watershed Association
6 Old Lincoln Highway West
Ligonier, PA 15658

Or email to:
susan@loyalwater.com

Applications must be received by close of business on April 30, 2021