

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) provides conservation and stewardship summer programs for youth ages 12-18.

The YCC is an opportunity for youth to spend the summer outside, learn about local conservation and stewardship efforts, and improve natural landscapes across the islands.

YCC is dedicated to establishing an ethic of care and stewardship among youth and providing professional development training.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

Youth will work closely with program staff, conservation professionals, and partner education programs on stewardship projects, inquiry-based experiential outdoor education, and professional development. In doing so, YCC members gain applied job skills and training that can help propel them into their future.


Daily activities can include: forest stand mapping, Traditional Ecological Knowledge of native plants, wildfire risk reduction, wetland and riparian zone recovery, invasive weed removal, and trail building/brushing.


Interested in being on our mailing list? Let us know!


You will receive occasional updates about the program and will be notified when summer applications open.

MORE INFORMATION

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SAN JUAN ISLANDS



CONSERVATION DISTRICT



YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Orcas | Lopez | San Juan



sanjuanislandscd.org/ycc

Learn more on our website!



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Pictured: Students observe Eelgrass tanks at UW Friday Harbor Labs. (Summer 2022)



STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"Throughout my journey through the YCC, I have grown in many ways (not just height!). Being in this program has been an incredible experience, and it has given me an even greater appreciation for these beautiful islands that I get to call home. There is an indescribable feeling that I get knowing I am making a difference, and I just feel absolutely connected with the world around me."

- Luke Fincher (He/him), YCC Alumni



Pictured: Students learn about forestry while caging a tree with the San Juan Preservation Trust (Summer 2021)



Learning Themes

- Team building & anti-bullying
- Developing sense of place
- Wilderness skills
- Land management ethics
- Marine ecosystems & nearshore environments
- Endangered species preservation
- Forest & fire ecology
- Art & environmentalism

OUTCOMES

By the end of each season every crew member develops a sense of pride and accomplishment, knowing not only that they have grown and changed themselves, but that they have contributed in important ways to their community and to the environment. Students receive a financial stipend at the season to celebrate and thank them for their hard work.