



Boulder  
County

# Youth Corps

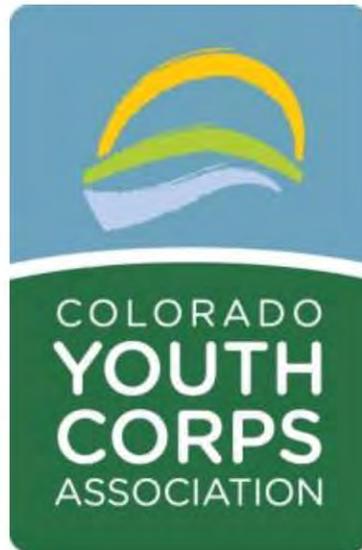
*Improving Ourselves*



*Improving Our Community*



## 2016 Season in Review



**The Boulder County Youth Corps has been accredited annually by the Colorado Youth Corps Association since 2002**

*Cover Photo: Corpsmembers from the Trails 2 Team working on the new AHI Trail in Longmont*

# 2016 Season in Review



## OUR MISSION:

The Youth Corps provides opportunities for Boulder County youth to develop a sense of community involvement through personal accomplishment, teamwork and service to the County.

## OUR VISION:

The Youth Corps delivers the most ambitious and highest quality entry-level work experience available to Boulder County youth. We provide an experience of excellence by recruiting and training a staff committed to accomplishment through hard work, respect for people and the environment, and belief in an ideal that work can be fun. We ensure the betterment of our community by providing work opportunities for youth that contribute to the legacy of Boulder County while providing a proving ground for young leaders that challenges them to inspire the youth entrusted to their guidance.

*Improving Ourselves, Improving Our Community*

### **Boulder County Youth Corps**

5201 St. Vrain Road Longmont, CO 80503  
303-678-6104  
[www.bouldercounty.org/youthcorps](http://www.bouldercounty.org/youthcorps)

### **Staff:**

Judy Wolfe, Program Manager  
Amanda Goldstein, Field Coordinator  
Will Tyler, Rover  
Meghan Jedrzejewski, Environmental Education Rover

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# Thank You, Ron!



This is the Forestry 2 Team holding letters to spell out THANK YOU to Ron Stewart, the Parks & Open Space Director since 1998 who retired in September 2016. Ron was instrumental as one of three Boulder County Commissioners who voted to create the Youth Corps (then known as the Service Corps) back in 1996, plus his efforts helped move the Youth Corps to Parks & Open Space in 2008 and he was always supportive of increasing the number of teams whenever possible. Thank you for your invaluable support of the Youth Corps over the years, Ron!

# Season Highlights

1. Met the requirements for a \$11,700 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (which receives a portion of lottery funds) by employing youth on the first ever Town of Erie Team that completed Coal Creek Corridor improvements. This grant was facilitated by the Colorado Youth Corps Association.
2. The Forestry 2 Team helped Parks & Open Space (POS) meet the requirements for a Colorado State Forest Wildland Urban Interface State Fire Assistance grant by building 155 slash piles and decking 14 cords of logs at Hall Ranch.
3. The Historic Preservation Team helped POS partially meet the requirements for a two-year Department of Natural Resources Wildfire Risk Reduction grant to create defensible space around historic structures on various open space properties.
4. The Trails 1 and Trails 2 Teams helped POS partially meet the requirements for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Colorado State Trails grant by building 2.5 miles of new trail on the AHI property.
5. Held steady the number of female Corpsmembers hired (47%) and increased by 7% the number of female Leaders hired (56%).
6. Increased employee recruitment efforts, which resulted in a 41% increase in Corpsmember applications, a 56% increase in Assistant Team Leader applications, and a 26% increase in Team Leader applications.
7. Streamlined all training materials and added more detailed information on painting and trail construction/maintenance techniques and pointers.
8. Created a new look for the Season in Review final report to bring it in line with POS printed materials.
9. Increased hourly pay for Assistant Team Leaders from \$12 to \$13 and Team Leaders from \$14 to \$15 to spur interest in the positions.
10. Boulder County Commissioners increased the pay scale to match the increase in Colorado minimum wage. Hourly rates for first-year Corpsmembers were \$8.31; second and third-years \$8.56; and, fourth-years \$8.81. Employed 160 Corpsmembers on 19 teams.

# Project Accomplishments



- 1 Research Studies Assisted/Surveys Completed
- 2 Miles of Fence Removed
- 2.2 Miles of Fence Built/Repaired
- 2.7 Miles of Trail Maintained/Closed
- 3.4 Miles of Trail Built
- 8 Signs Installed/Removed
- 10 Areas Renovated
- 12 Tons of Debris Removed
- 16 Structures Built/Cleaned/Stabilized
- 31 Public Art Pieces Inventoried/Cleaned
- 31.8 Tons of Material Moved
- 37 Cords of Wood Moved
- 65.7 Acres Weeded
- 79 Acres of Forestry Work
- 162 Structures Painted
- 415 Slash Piles Built
- 620 Square Feet of Weed Mat Installed
- 626 Trees Removed
- 901 Bags of Noxious Weeds/Debris  
Removed/Native Seed Collected
- 1,828 LED Light Bulbs Checked/Replaced
- 2,353 Feet of Trenches Dug
- 2,844 Trees and Plants Planted/Mulched
- 4,350 Flyers Delivered
- 5,127 Feet of Material Installed/Removed
- 8,952 Cubic Feet of Material Moved

# Agriculture

## Accomplishments:

- Built 548 feet of fence
- Fixed 10 feet of concrete culvert
- Assisted the Recreation & Facilities Team with a fence project listed under that team's accomplishments



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Agricultural Resources

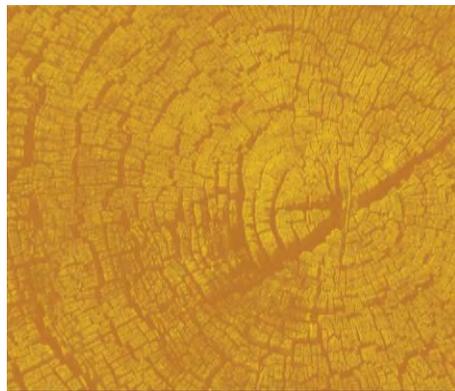
**Project Hours**  
924 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$15,000

**Project Locations**  
Agricultural Heritage  
Center  
Bishop  
Ertl  
Reynolds Ranch

**Number of Employees**  
5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Longmont



# Boulder

## Accomplishments:

- Constructed 216 feet of trail
- Maintained 1,452 feet of trail
- Painted 2 structures
- Planted 370 plants
- Fixed 42 sprinkler heads
- Removed 48 bags of noxious weeds
- Moved 913 cu feet of material



**Sponsor Agency**  
City of Boulder  
Parks & Recreation  
Department

**Project Hours**  
1,944 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$55,000

**Project Locations**  
Boulder Creek Path  
Harlow Platts Park  
Pearl Street Mall  
Valmont City Park  
Various Parks

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Boulder  
Niwot



**Municipal  
Partner**

# Erie

## Accomplishments:

- Constructed 300 feet and maintained 5,500 feet of trail
- Stained 300 feet of fence
- Installed 8 signs
- Dug 160 feet of irrigation ditches
- Installed 500 sq feet of erosion mat
- Planted 155 trees and installed drip irrigation for 15 trees
- Removed 118 bags of noxious weeds and debris and cleared 5,500 sq feet of vegetation
- Demolished railroad tie staircase and filled in with 3,500 pounds of dirt
- Spread 2 tons of material and 170 cu feet of mulch



**Sponsor Agency**  
Town of Erie  
Parks & Recreation  
Department

**Project Hours**  
923 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$15,000

**Project Locations**  
Coal Creek Trail Corridor  
Community Park  
Dog Park  
Singletrack Trail System

**Number of Employees**  
5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Erie



**Municipal  
Partner**

# Forestry 1

## Accomplishments:

- Built 140 slash piles and moved 4 cords of wood on 65 acres
- Weeded 60 acres removing 100 bags of noxious weeds
- Sorted and dispersed 1,130 cu feet of material
- Landscaped moving 240 cu feet of material



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Forestry

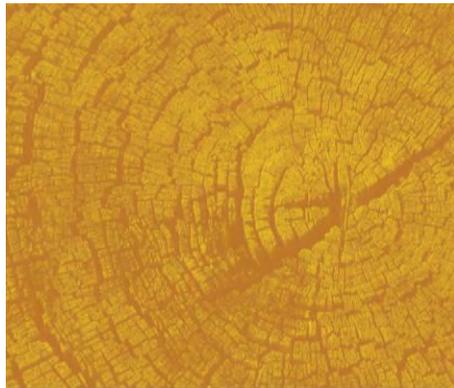
**Project Hours**  
2,161 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$25,600

**Project Locations**  
Bald Mountain  
Meeker Park Community  
Forestry Sort Yard  
Walker Ranch

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Erie  
Lafayette  
Louisville  
Superior



# Forestry 2

## Accomplishments:

- Built 155 slash piles and moved 14 cords of wood on 14 acres
- Weeded 5 acres removing 2 bags of noxious weeds



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Land Use  
Wildfire Mitigation

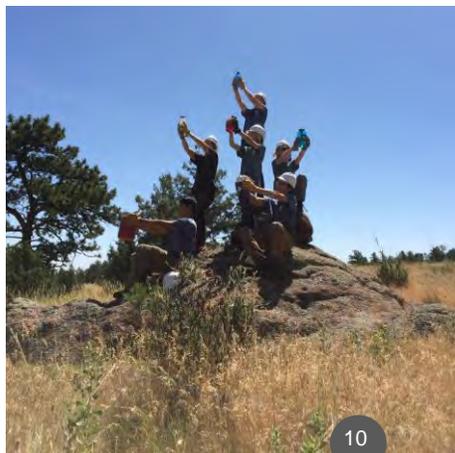
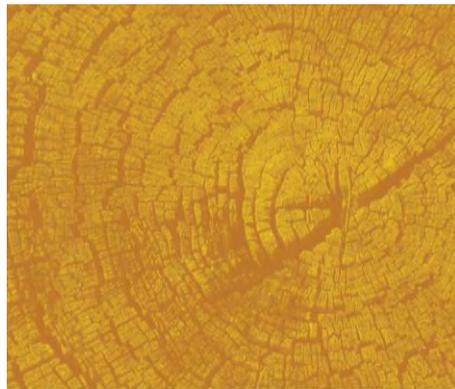
**Project Hours**  
2,071 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$25,600

**Project Locations**  
Hall Ranch

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Boulder  
Golden  
Jamestown



# Grounds

## Accomplishments:

- Maintained 145 feet of trail
- Repaired 32 feet of fence
- Reset 68 parking stops
- Replaced 36 timbers and 35 uprights
- Weeded 3,940 sq feet
- Removed 4 trees
- Spread and tamped 90 cu feet of material
- Dug 67 feet of trenches for drainage



### Sponsor Agency

Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Grounds

### Project Hours

1,989 Hours

### Project Estimated Value

\$17,000

### Project Locations

South Boulder Creek  
Walker Ranch

### Number of Employees

10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

### Cities Corpsmembers

Hired From  
Longmont



# Historic Preservation

## Accomplishments:

- Created defensible space around historic structures by digging 961 feet of trenches, filling 927 feet of trenches with stabilizer and removing 5 trees plus 12 tons of duff and debris
- Built 686 feet of fence
- Maintained 2,904 feet of fence/corrals



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Buildings & Historic  
Preservation

**Project Hours**  
1,928 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$20,000

**Project Locations**  
Caribou Ranch  
Reynolds Ranch  
Walker Ranch

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Boulder  
Niwot



# Housing

## Accomplishments:

- Removed 40 feet of brick retaining wall
- Installed 1 shade structure and 2 benches
- Installed 128 sq feet of pavers
- Laid 120 sq feet of weed mat
- Moved 488 cu feet of material
- Renovated 4 areas
- Planted 23 plants
- Removed 70 bags of noxious weeds



### Sponsor Agency

Boulder County  
Housing & Human Services

### Project Hours

1,756 Hours

### Project Estimated Value

\$8,000

### Project Locations

Longmont  
Lyons  
Niwot

### Number of Employees

10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

### Cities Corpsmembers

Hired From  
Erie  
Lafayette  
Superior



# Lafayette

## Accomplishments:

- Planted/mulched 174 plants; watered hundreds of plants weekly
- Built 575 feet and removed 820 feet of fence
- Built 30 feet and maintained 1,600 feet of trail, including installation of 2 culverts
- Cleaned and painted 1 underpass
- Removed 60 bags of noxious weeds and 4 trees
- Installed 2 amenities
- Moved 4 tons of dirt
- Dug 150 feet of swales with check dams



**Sponsor Agency**  
City of Lafayette  
Open Space

**Project Hours**  
1,753 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$45,000

**Project Locations**  
BNSF Trail  
Coal Creek Trail  
Flagg Park

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Lafayette  
Louisville



**Municipal  
Partner**

# Longmont Button Rock

## Accomplishments:

- Built 95 slash piles
- Moved 18 cords of wood
- Weeded 5.5 acres
- Removed 5 bags of noxious weeds
- Laid 405 cu feet of mulch, including mulching 75 trees



**Sponsor Agency**  
City of Longmont  
Water Resources

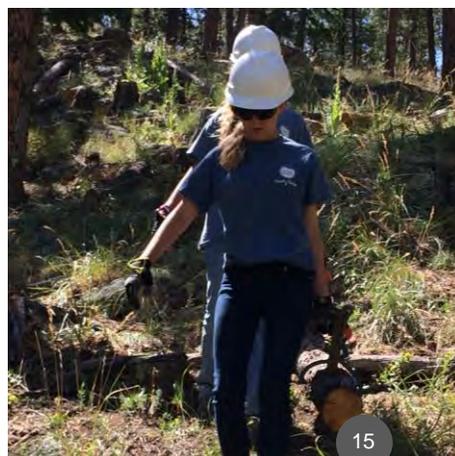
**Project Hours**  
2,125 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$34,000

**Project Locations**  
Button Rock Preserve

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers**  
**Hired From**  
Boulder  
Longmont



# Longmont Power & Comm

## Accomplishments:

- Checked/replaced 1,828 LED light bulbs on residential light pedestals throughout Longmont
- Prepped/painted 130 residential light pedestals



**Sponsor Agency**  
City of Longmont  
Power &  
Communications

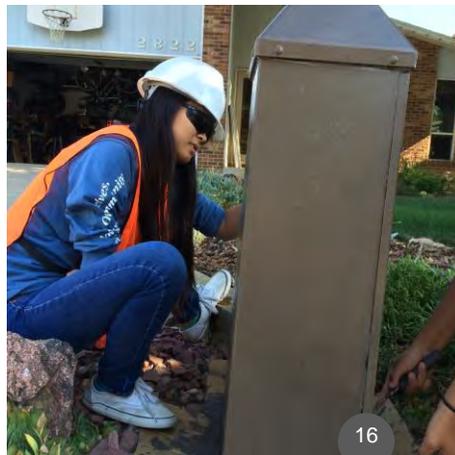
**Project Hours**  
1,026 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$16,900

**Project Locations**  
Longmont Residences  
Power &  
Communications  
Warehouse

**Number of Employees**  
5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Longmont



# Louisville

## Accomplishments:

- Maintained 3,700 feet of trail by spreading 39 tons of material
- Painted 2 structures
- Installed 1 bench
- Built 1 floating wetland
- Spread 300 cu feet of mulch
- Removed 1,000 feet of straw waddles and stakes
- Removed 226 bags of noxious weeds



**Sponsor Agency**  
City of Louisville  
Parks & Recreation  
Department

**Project Hours**  
973 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$40,530

**Project Locations**  
Coal Creek Trail  
Davidson Mesa  
Harper Lake  
Miners Field  
Various Parks and Open  
Space Properties

**Number of Employees**  
5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Louisville



**Municipal  
Partner**

# Public Health

## Accomplishments:

- Delivered information to 4,350 residences
- Removed 118 bags of noxious weeds and debris
- Dug 950 feet of trenches to improve drainage and moved 50 feet of fence
- Harvested and maintained 3 community gardens by planting 6 trees and numerous crops, moving 170 cu feet of material and relocating 200 feet of irrigation line



### Sponsor Agency

Boulder County  
Public Health  
Environmental Health

### Project Hours

1,051 Hours

### Project Estimated Value

\$10,000

### Project Locations

Boulder  
Erie  
Lafayette  
Longmont  
Louisville  
Superior

### Number of Employees

5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

### Cities Corpsmembers Hired From

Longmont



# Recreation & Facilities

## Accomplishments:

- Built 1,520 feet of fence
- Removed 3,500 of fence, plus coiled/removed 3,000 feet of barbed wire
- Refurbished 280 livestock pens
- Removed 16 bags of noxious weeds
- Moved 6 cu feet and 7 tons of material
- Built 4 culverts and 4 caribou crossing braces
- Reconstructed 1 rock wall



### Sponsor Agency

Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Recreation & Facilities

### Project Hours

1,728 Hours

### Project Estimated Value

\$17,000

### Project Locations

Agricultural Heritage  
Center  
Caribou Ranch  
Boulder County  
Fairgrounds  
Lagerman Reservoir

### Number of Employees

10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

### Cities Corpsmembers

Hired From  
Longmont



# Resource Management

## Accomplishments:

- Built 3,866 feet of fence
- Removed 5,600 feet of fence
- Planted 2,020 plants; watered 1,315 plants
- Removed 51 bags of noxious weeds
- Removed 553 trees
- Prepared the Agricultural Heritage Center for Barnyard Critter Day
- Cleaned/painted the Artist-in-Residence cabin at Caribou Ranch
- Worked on 18 different properties



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Resource Management

**Project Hours**  
2,189 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$25,000

**Project Locations**  
Caribou Ranch  
Heil Valley Ranch  
Reynolds Ranch  
Various Open Space  
Properties

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Longmont  
Lyons



# Superior

## Accomplishments:

- Built 4,096 feet of trail, including spreading 20 tons of material
- Maintained 1,490 feet of trail, including spreading 4 tons of material
- Removed 122 bags of noxious weeds and debris
- Removed 4,860 cu feet of debris
- Maintained 100 feet of fence



**Sponsor Agency**  
Town of Superior  
Parks, Recreation  
& Open Space

**Project Hours**  
1,997 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$32,375

**Project Locations**  
Christianson Trail  
Coalton Road Trail  
Founders Park  
Snowmass Trail  
Various Parks and Open  
Space Properties

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Superior



**Municipal  
Partner**

# Sustainability

## Accomplishments:

- Maintained 450 feet of trail; dug 65 feet of trenches
- Built 800 feet of fence
- Inventoried/cleaned 31 public art pieces
- Painted 25 structures, including 2,300 sq feet of a concrete block wall
- Removed 60 trees; mulched 21 trees
- Removed 25 bags of noxious weeds
- Built 25 slash piles; moved 1 cord of wood; relocated 180 cu feet of debris
- Completed 1 bird box survey
- Acted as “Zero Waste Champions” at the Boulder County Fair for 1 day



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Commissioners' Office  
Sustainability Division

**Project Hours**  
1,072 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$21,840

**Project Locations**  
Boulder  
Longmont  
Lyons

**Number of Employees**  
5 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers  
Hired From**  
Longmont



# Trails 1

## Accomplishments:

- Built 2.5 miles of trail
- Removed 400 feet of fence

*The estimated value and accomplishments are an accumulation of both trails teams.*



### Sponsor Agency

Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Trails

### Project Hours

1,944 Hours

### Project Estimated Value

\$81,900

### Project Locations

AHI

### Number of Employees

10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

### Cities Corpsmembers

#### Hired From

Longmont  
Lyons



# Trails 2

## Accomplishments:

- Built 2.5 miles of trail
- Removed 400 feet of fence

*The estimated value and accomplishments are an accumulation of both trails teams.*



**Sponsor Agency**  
Boulder County  
Parks & Open Space  
Trails

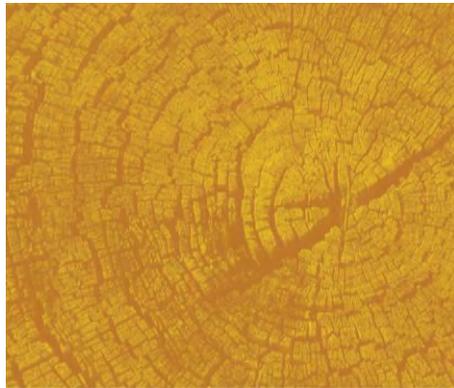
**Project Hours**  
2,012 Hours

**Project Estimated Value**  
\$81,900

**Project Locations**  
AHI

**Number of Employees**  
10 Corpsmembers  
1 Team Leader  
1 Assistant Team Leader

**Cities Corpsmembers**  
**Hired From**  
Boulder  
Lafayette  
Nederland



# Corpsmember Comments

"I am extremely grateful I was hired and feel that this summer has been one of the best learning experiences of my life."

"What I have learned will make me a better student, worker, leader, and friend for many years to come."

"I learned many applicable practical skills, and I feel I contributed positively to the team, all while meeting new people and enjoying the outdoors."

"I have learned to work as part of a team, hold myself and everyone else accountable, and to trust my teammates."

"I have learned so much about our community, working outdoors, and overall participating on a very effective team."

"This summer was amazing! I learned so much about the environment and how I can help."

"I've been getting a lot of exercise at work and can feel myself starting to get stronger and more fit."

"Youth Corps has been challenging, but I enjoy challenging myself and trying to get better."

"I feel so accomplished because as a team we did a lot of good work that will help people out in the future."

"I really enjoyed my time and I think I learned a lot of new skills like how to be productive in a team and listen to everyone's opinions and ideas."

"It was fun working at the BCYC, and I worked on getting stronger and using teamwork to get things done."

"I will remember this experience forever!"



*Congratulations to Jake Drewes, the 2016 Corpsmember of the Year, who said about his season on the Recreation & Facilities Team:*

*"I really enjoyed this summer. I'm proud to have been a part of the Youth Corps and this team for three seasons. Our team really came together and accomplished a lot."*

# Team Leader Comments

"This summer I feel as though I was able to learn about all of the tasks that come with being an Assistant Team Leader, and be part of a wonderful organization that changed my life when I was a Corpsmember."

"My summer helped me redefine myself as a leader and team member, and it was super fun, too!"

"I saw growth in my Corpsmembers, which made my season that much better."

"It was great to work with young people in a new way that let them see the direct impact their work made in their own community. This aspect is unique to the Youth Corps."

"I've learned how to delegate and I feel as if I've found a style of leadership that suits me."

"Our team created a strong inclusive bond with each other which reinforced teamwork and a strong work ethic."

"I learned how gratifying it is to work with kids, who are so open and ready to learn."

"We were surprised by how close our team got this summer. They feel like our Youth Corps family, and we will miss them so much when the summer is over."

"It was an amazing season with lots of hard work and fun every step of the way. I will miss this job!"

"I was very happy with how I communicated and problem solved with everyone."

"I have really enjoyed taking on the responsibility of keeping things going smoothly."

"I believe that I have really been able to grow and gain more experience in supervising and leadership."

"I learned that keeping a good attitude no matter what really affects the whole team."

"It was fun and educational learning how to work with and motivate youth outside of the traditional school setting."

"We consistently go above and beyond the work expected of us, which feels nice! "

"I loved my crew and our projects!"



# Staff Photo



“

*I had a very rewarding summer and I'm grateful to have been part of the Youth Corps this summer.*

”

# Sponsor Comments

*Congratulations to Tommy Frikken, the 2016 Sponsor of the Year, who said about his season with the Superior Team:*

“

*I take pride in selecting projects for the team and want the kids to have a great experience working on projects during their summers. I had a great summer season with the entire BCYC this year and look forward to what 2017 has in store for everyone!*

”

“The Youth Corps is a vital part of our annual operations.”

“Working on the Agriculture Team teaches the kids about agriculture in Boulder County and it provides a little taste of what it’s like to live or work on a farm/ranch.”

“It’s great to be able to expose local teens to open space that exists in their community, as well as learning and participating in the management that goes along with those properties.”

“Nothing beats a team singing while they work!”



“Corpsmembers help remind us that it is all about your attitude and even mundane or hard physical tasks can be fun if you enjoy the people you work with and have a positive attitude.”

“The team was very flexible and understanding, kept up great communication throughout the summer and no matter where they were working they did a great job!”

“Having all these jobs knocked out in a matter of weeks over the summer is an incredible help and probably would not have happened if it wasn’t for the BCYC. ”

# Environmental Education

## Lessons:

- Carrying Capacity: A Lesson on Overpopulation
- Parks & Open Space Land Management Meeting: Old McDonald's Farm
- More than a Mouthful: Processed Food vs. Fresh, Local Food
- Emergency First Aid: Ranger Scenarios



"The lesson on overpopulation was informative, fun and interactive."

"The Corpsmembers enjoyed learning about the emergency scenarios from the Rangers because it's something they can apply."

"My team enjoyed the Old McDonald's Farm discussion because it provided a cool framework for understanding how land conservation works."

"I could see myself being a Ranger."

"I liked learning about the ingredients in certain foods."

"I liked the Old McDonald's Farm lesson because of its focus on real world issues. I learned about various practical options for action on an issue."

"I enjoyed the food lesson because it was eye opening to learn where food comes from and the skits we did were fun."

"I liked the carrying capacity lesson because I learned while having fun."

"I thought what the Rangers taught us was essential information because it could potentially save lives."

"I liked the food one because we got to eat local vegetables with hummus at the end."

"I enjoyed learning about how the County Commissioners make decisions."

"I liked the overpopulation one because we learned about hunting management."

"I like the land use lesson because it was a fun debate with many perspectives."

"I liked the Old McDonald's Farm one because I liked getting to hear everyone's opinions and getting to debate."

"I liked meeting the Rangers because their job interests me."