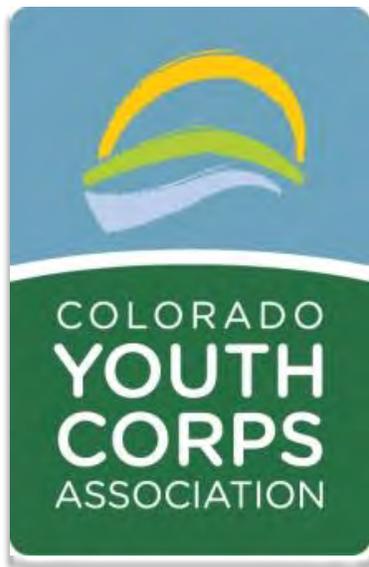




Youth Corps
Improving Ourselves  *Improving Our Community*



2011 Season in Review



**Accredited by the
Colorado Youth
Corps Association
since 2002**

Cover Photo:
Members of the Forestry 3 Team flexing their hard-earned muscles at Hall Ranch
Open Space



2011 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.



Prepared By:

Judy Wolfe
Program Manager

Marisa Heidt
Field Coordinator

Tiffany Fourment
Environmental Education Coordinator



Boulder County Youth Corps

5201 St. Vrain Road
Longmont, CO 80503
303-678-6104

www.bouldercounty.org/youthcorps



★ *Improving Ourselves, Improving Our Community* ★

Table of Contents

5	Season Highlights
6	Applicant Stats
7	Corpsmember Stats
8	Additional Stats
9	Project Accomplishments
10	Agriculture
11	Facilities
12	Fairgrounds/Caretakers
13	Forestry 1
14	Forestry 3
15	Grounds
16	Historic Restoration
17	Lafayette
18	Longmont Button Rock
19	Longmont Power & Communications
20	Public Health
21	Resource Management
22	Superior
23	Sustainability
24	Trail Construction 1
25	Trail Construction 2
26	Trail Maintenance
27	Corpsmember Comments
28	Team Leader Comments
29	Sponsor Comments
30	Environmental Education
31	Additional Photos
32	Video Link

Season Highlights

1. Awarded a \$20,093 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado, which receives a portion of lottery funds, to employ youth ages 16-17 to add a second City of Longmont team to work at Button Rock Preserve in 2012; recipients were selected in a competitive process led by the Colorado Youth Corps Association.
2. Boulder County was awarded a Colorado Lottery Starburst Award for the extension of the Mayhoffer/Singletree Trail near Superior, which was a 2009 Youth Corps trail construction project.
3. Boulder County Parks & Open Space won a Merit Award for Environmental Restoration and Reclamation for the 2006 Mud Lake Open Space Youth Corps project from the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.
4. Hosted a White House “Roundtable with Young Americans” on May 24, 2011 to gather input from returning Corpsmembers on how to make the outdoors more relevant, accessible and fun for young people.
5. Accepted as a referral agency to nominate Corpsmembers entering their senior year of high school for the Daniels Fund Scholarship Program.
6. Welcomed Field Coordinator Marisa Heidt to the team.
7. Hired 100% of our Assistant Team Leaders with prior Boulder County Youth Corps experience and increased female Corpsmembers by 2% for a total of 44% female Corpsmembers hired.
8. Revised the Performance Standards on Leader Evaluations.
9. Restructured Leader training to allow returning Leaders to skip the first week of training in order to focus on Leaders new to the program and save money by not having returning Leaders attend numerous repetitive sessions.
10. Boulder County Commissioners increased the pay scale to match the increase in Colorado minimum wage. Hourly rates for first-year Corpsmembers were \$7.36; second and third-years \$7.61; and, fourth-years \$7.86.

Applicant Stats

LOCALITY	NUMBER	PERCENT
Boulder	70	16%
Erie	8	2%
Jamestown	2	< 1%
Lafayette	40	9%
Longmont	223	52%
Louisville	45	11%
Lyons	2	< 1%
Nederland	1	< 1%
Niwot	7	2%
Superior	23	5%
Unacceptable	4	1%
TOTAL	425	

GENDER	NUMBER	PERCENT
Male	280	66%
Female	145	34%

Applications Received Last Five Years:

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
382	302	486	467	425

Corpsmember Stats

LOCALITY	NUMBER	% OF TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	% OF LOCAL APPLICANTS
Boulder	35	23%	50%
Erie	3	2%	38%
Jamestown	2	1%	100%
Lafayette	13	8%	33%
Longmont	74	48%	33%
Louisville	14	9%	31%
Niwot	1	< 1%	14%
Superior	12	8%	52%
TOTAL	154		

GENDER	NUMBER	PERCENT
Male	87	56%
Female	67	44%

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT
14	45	29%
15	50	32%
16	29	19%
17	30	20%

ETHNICITY	AA	A	C	L	AI
Male	3	5	65	14	0
Female	2	4	47	14	0
Percent	3%	6%	73%	18%	0%

AA=African American A=Asian/Pacific
C=White L=Latino AI=American Indian

Additional Stats

Returning Corpsmember Participants:

CM RETURNS	2 ND YEAR	3 RD YEAR	4 TH YEAR	RETURN RATE
70	39	20	11	44%

Corpsmember Completion:

COMPLETED PROGRAM	DISMISSALS	PROMOTIONS	RESIGNATIONS (for personal reasons)	COMPLETION RATE
144	1	0	9	94%

Corpsmember Bonuses:

CM RECEIVING BONUS	FULL	3/4	1/2	1/4
141	75	50	14	2

Workers' Compensation Claims:

CLAIMS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	COMPARED TO AVERAGE
10	\$8,106	-\$30

Property Claims:

CLAIMS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	COMPARED TO AVERAGE
1	\$210	-\$940

Project Accomplishments

The next 17 pages report each team's accomplishments, hours worked, Sponsor's estimation of the dollar value for projects completed and other important data.

Cumulative Major Accomplishments of All Teams:

2	Historic Structures Stabilized
2	Miles of Trail Built
5	Miles of Streams Assessed
15	Miles of Trail Maintained
19	New Structures Built
20	Tons of Trash Removed from Streams and Properties
143	Acres of Forestry Work Done
154	Slash Piles Built
163	Trees Removed
196	Items Prepped and/or Painted (Residential Light Pedestals)
285	Bags of Noxious Weeds Pulled and Native Seed Collected
285	Storm Drains Marked
300	Feet of Fence Removed
1,100	Feet of Irrigation Installed/Maintained
2,880	CFL Light Bulbs Checked/Replaced
3,200	Square Feet of Planting Beds Reconstructed/Maintained
3,700	Plants and Trees Planted
4,372	Feet of Fence Built
4,500	Flyers Delivered to Residences



Agriculture

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Agricultural Resources

Project Hours:

2,138 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$10,000

Project Locations:

Lindsay
Verhey

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed 1,380 feet of new fence
- Installed 2,720 feet of electric fence
- Constructed 6 corner braces, 1 T brace and 9 H braces
- Installed 3 water tank structures
- Installed 3 protective triangle structures
- Constructed 1 corral



Facilities

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Administrative
Services
Facilities Maintenance

Project Hours:

1,939 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$3,000

Project Locations:

Justice Center
North Broadway
Complex
Recycling Center

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont
Niwot

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Reconstructed Justice Center inner courtyard planting beds over 1,484 sq feet
- Planted 1,560 annuals and shrubs
- Moved 3 tons of rock
- Spread 13.5 cu feet of mulch
- Pulled 54 bags of noxious weeds





Fairgrounds/Caretakers

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Fairgrounds &
Caretakers

Project Hours:

786 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$11,200

Project Locations:

Betasso Preserve
Boulder County
Fairgrounds
Caribou Ranch
Hall Ranch
Heil Ranch
Walker Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Installed 498 feet of irrigation pipe
- Removed mulch and weeds from 1,500 sq feet of flowerbeds
- Removed 300 feet of fencing
- Replaced 2.5 miles of open space boundary signs
- Repaired 40 water bars
- Reconstructed 3 gateway fences



Forestry 1



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Forestry

Project Hours:

1,828 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$15,000

Project Locations:

Heil Valley Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Lafayette
Louisville
Superior

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 34 slash piles by clearing 9.5 acres of logs and slash
- Weeded 25 acres, which produced 12 cu feet of noxious weeds



Forestry 3



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Land Use
Wildfire Mitigation

Project Hours:

1,564 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$20,000

Project Locations:

Hall Ranch
Heil Valley Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Jamestown

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 120 slash piles by clearing 13 acres of logs and slash
- Weeded 40 acres, which produced 16 cu feet of noxious weeds
- Decked approximately 2000 stumps and logs





Grounds

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Grounds

Project Hours:

1,836 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$6,000

Project Locations:

Betasso Preserve
Goodhue
Marlatt
Twin Lakes

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

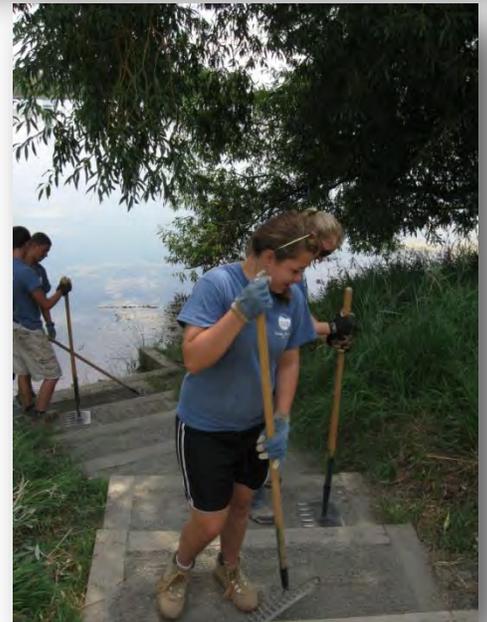
Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed 2 picnic table pads and 1 barbecue grill pad
- Constructed 2 fishing pads
- Constructed 2 bench pads and 2 bike lock pads
- Weeded and added crusher fines to approximately 2.25 miles of trail and 12 structures





Historic Restoration

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Facilities

Project Hours:

1,729 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$6,000

Project Locations:

Walker Ranch
(Lower Barn)

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Boulder
Lafayette

Number of

Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Installed 70 feet of French drain
- Built 26 feet of bracing wall
- Built 3 shutters
- Dug and back filled 925 feet of dirt to brace barn beams
- Poured 45 concrete piers
- Constructed 1 small bridge and 2 sets of stairs



Lafayette



Sponsor Agency:

City of Lafayette
Open Space

Project Hours:

1,756 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$25,000

Project Locations:

Coal Creek Trail
Outdoor Classroom
Rothman Open Space
Various Open Space
Properties

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Erie
Lafayette
Louisville

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed .5 mile of new trail
- Performed 1 mile of trail maintenance
- Removed 20 tons of concrete from Coal Creek and 2 truckloads of wood and fence debris from Rock Creek
- Rehabilitated 10,200 sq feet of land by spreading dirt and seed and laying erosion netting
- Built 162 feet of fence
- Watered 50 trees throughout the season
- Moved 40 Russian olive trees to be chipped
- Pulled 27 bags of noxious weeds





Longmont Button Rock

Sponsor Agency:

City of Longmont
Water Resources

Project Hours:

2,159 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$32,000

Project Locations:

Button Rock Preserve

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Performed forest fire mitigation activities including lopping and scattering slash on 45 acres
- Removed 155 cords of logs to be used as firewood
- Removed weeds and all woody plant material from the Ralph Price Dam, an area of approximately 10 acres





Longmont P & C

Sponsor Agency:

City of Longmont
Power &
Communications

Project Hours:

930 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$11,500

Project Locations:

Longmont Residences
Power &
Communications
Warehouse

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Checked/replaced 2,880 compact florescent light bulbs from residential pedestals throughout Longmont
- Packaged 3,000 light bulbs and 500 batteries to be recycled
- Prepped and/or painted 196 residential light pedestals
- Delivered information to 102 residences
- Assembled 50 lanterns





Public Health

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Public Health
working with the
“Keep It Clean”
Partnership

Project Hours:

1,021 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$10,000

Project Locations:

Boulder
Erie
Lafayette
Longmont
Louisville
Superior

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Observed and assessed 5 miles of creeks and streams
- Removed 242 pounds of trash along waterways
- Marked 285 storm drains
- Mulched 200 trees
- Collected 48 bags of noxious weeds
- Delivered information to 1,887 residences
- Removed 12 Russian olive trees





Resource Management

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Resource
Management

Project Hours:

1,750 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$6,000

Project Locations:

Assay Office
Betasso Preserve
Boulder County
Fairgrounds
Caribou Ranch
Heil Valley Ranch
Lagerman Reservoir
Reynolds Ranch
Rock Creek Farm
Various Open Space
Properties

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Planted 2,075 plants and shrubs and 28 trees
- Removed 25 cu yards plus 29 bags of weeds and debris
- Built 2 elk jump fences
- Maintained approximately 3 miles of trail
- Moved 80 bales of hay and raked 23 bags of straw in Fourmile Canyon burn area to make available for property owners
- Removed 20 trees around Betasso Preserve caretaker's residence for fire mitigation
- Collected 5 bags of native seed
- Worked on 19 different properties



Superior



Sponsor Agency:

Town of Superior
Parks, Recreation &
Open Space

Project Hours:

1,790 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$41,000

Project Locations:

Community Park
Various Parks and
Open Space
Properties

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Superior

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed 3,085 feet of new trail
- Applied linseed oil to 1,275 feet of fence
- Revegetated 500 feet of social trail
- Built 50 feet of fence
- Maintained 1,150 feet of trail
- Installed/maintained 11 drainages



Sustainability



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Commissioners' Office
Sustainability Division

Project Hours:

930 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$7,000

Project Locations:

Boulder
Boulder County
Fairgrounds
Casa de la Esperanza
Learning Center
Community Rose
Garden
Coalton Trailhead
Josephine Commons

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Delivered information to approximately 2,500 residences
- Removed 25 dead trees
- Pulled 122 bags of noxious weeds
- Worked on 30 water spigots and installed/replaced 40 feet of irrigation pipe
- Tagged 250 bikes with safety information
- Maintained 4,000 feet of trail
- Fixed 1 stone planter and planted approximately 50 plants





Trail Construction 1

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Trails

Project Hours:

1,577 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$20,000

Project Locations:

Benjamin/
Betasso Preserve

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Jamestown

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed 1,000 feet of new trail
- Maintained 3,000 feet of trail
- Raised 200 feet of trail
- Removed 26 trees
- Moved 4.2 tons of rock





Trail Construction 2

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Trails

Project Hours:

2,389 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$38,000

Project Locations:

Betasso Preserve

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Erie
Louisville
Superior

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Constructed 1,174 feet of new trail
- Constructed 332 feet of ADA wheelchair accessible trail
- Filled 110 steps with road base material





Trail Maintenance

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Trails

Project Hours:

1,557 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$46,000

Project Locations:

Anne U. White Trail
Boulder Creek Trail
Caribou Ranch
Rabbit Mountain

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Maintained 7.3 miles of trail, including rebuilding a trail damaged by flooding
- Installed 5 check dams, 5 drainages and 1 culvert
- Removed 40 trees and spread flood vegetative debris
- Installed 60 feet of fence



Corpsmember Comments

- I never had a dull day and it felt great making some difference in my community while having fun doing it.
- Youth Corps was an awesome opportunity for me to learn new things about our environment and myself.
- When the days got harder I learned to push myself and stay positive.
- This job is hard work. After each day, you know you earned your pay, and after each summer you know you did well!
- Working with kids your own age, out in the Colorado mountains, is a fantastic way to spend your summer and save some money for the school year and college.
- This experience will be with me forever!
- I came back for four summers because I like the opportunity to meet new team leaders and get more chances to test my leadership and responsibility.
- This summer has been very memorable, motivating and life changing for me.
- I learned a lot about the environment and how much County employees contribute to the environment through hard work.
- My time with the Youth Corps has been awesome – it beat all my expectations.



- I think I will do well in the future because of this job.
- I enjoyed the hard work and unity of our team.
- I believe that this year I really grew as a leader on my team.
- The Youth Corps is a great place to be introduced to a professional work environment with peers.
- I have learned many new skills and I feel I grew as an individual.
- I enjoyed the different people and my entire team was cooperative and fun to work with.
- Over the course of the work season, I feel that I improved greatly in both strength and stamina, but also spirit and character.
- I can't wait to come back next year.

Team Leader Comments



- I really loved this job – it’s the best one I’ve had in a long, long time – and I looked forward to work.
- I am very proud of the team and our accomplishments.
- I feel that I have grown as a leader who can effectively interact and lead a group to accomplish difficult tasks.
- The team faced a few different challenges and it was incredible to watch us tackle them.
- The team got along great and knew when to help each other out.
- I gained a lot of experience this summer and I couldn’t be more personally satisfied with how the season ended.
- This was easily the best year I’ve had in the Youth Corps. I’m really going to miss the Corpsmembers and my Assistant Team Leader.

- In one word, fantastic! The Youth Corps has been everything I hoped it would be.
- Another season at BCYC has reminded me of the enormous beauty of this land, of the equally huge responsibility of future generations to be its shepherds, and reinforced the belief that the young people of this County have the ability, desire and passion to maintain the Parks & Open Space legacy.
- It was refreshing to work for such a well-organized, professional, fun and, most importantly, character-building program for youth.
- My best success was completing the “rite of passage” from Corpsmember to Assistant Team Leader to Team Leader.
- I not only learned a lot about teamwork, but about myself as a mentor and leader as well.
- I became a stronger manager and leader. I was able to change the team dynamic positively to improve the working environment.
- This year turned out to be amazing! By the end of the season, the Corpsmembers were not only a cohesive, team-driven group, but they achieved more than the Sponsor thought was possible.

Sponsor Comments

- They did a fantastic job on the projects they had assigned!
- It was a huge benefit to have the Youth Corps crew dedicated to this very visible project every day.
- It is nice to have the young in the community do the work FOR THEIR community.
- The Youth Corps does a great job getting big projects done.
- It provided an opportunity for the youth to learn the value of a hard day's work as well as let them explore places in the County otherwise not seen.
- The Youth Corps did quality work in some highly visible places and received well-deserved compliments on their projects from the public.
- Having the Youth Corps allows us to tackle projects that we just otherwise wouldn't have taken on this year given our small department size.
- I was able to have more bodies to take care of some projects that would normally take me and my seasonal more time.
- Minimal direct supervision was needed.
- Allowed us to put hands on the job that we would not have been able to otherwise.



- Having the team complete these projects saves time and money and gives us a professional finished product.
- The public will enjoy their efforts for many years to come.
- The Youth Corps allowed us to have a dedicated labor source for our project.
- Good experience for the kids.
- Getting a lot of work done in a short amount of time.

Environmental Education

Lessons Taught by the EE Coordinator:

THEME	LESSON	DESCRIPTION
Appreciating Nature	Fire Ecology at Bald Mountain	Explored the role of fire in forests during a field trip to Bald Mountain to view the Fourmile Canyon burn area.
Identifying the Natural World	Citizen Science: Prairie Dogs	Visited a prairie dog town to observe and collect data; discussed prairie dogs as a keystone species and the controversy surrounding them.
Understanding Environmental Issues/Making a Difference	Your Ecological Footprint	Each Corpsmember took the quiz to calculate their individual impact on the world and they discussed steps they can take to reduce their impact.



Special Session Presented by the EE Rover:

Geocaching Adventure – Each team learned about the pastime of geocaching, how to seek a cache and hunt one, too. Corpsmembers learned how to use a GPS unit and had a ton of fun with this activity.

What Leaders Said:

- “Fire Ecology hit the nail on the head!”
- “Loved the balance of fun and learning.”
- “The EE instructors have great rapport with the kids and are loads of fun.”
- **100%** rated the overall quality of EE activities as either “Excellent” or “Good.”
- **100%** rated the overall performance of the EE Coordinator as “Excellent” or “Good.”



What Corpsmembers Said:

- “I learned you have to look deeply into issues to fully understand and think of solutions for them.”
- “It was humbling to see what fire can do to an ecosystem.”
- **98%** rated the overall quality of EE activities as either “Excellent” or “Good.”
- **100%** rated the overall performance of the EE Coordinator as “Excellent” or “Good.”

Additional Photos



Left:
Leaders & Staff

Below (starting top left and moving clockwise): Grounds Team singing "YMCA" at the picnic; Trail Construction 2's skit at the picnic; Historic Restoration learning about fire behavior; and, Trail Maintenance hiking at Bald Mountain to see the Fourmile Canyon fire damage



Video Link

Visit our website at
www.bouldercounty.org/youthcorps
and follow the **Videos** link under **For More Information** to watch our videos posted online

