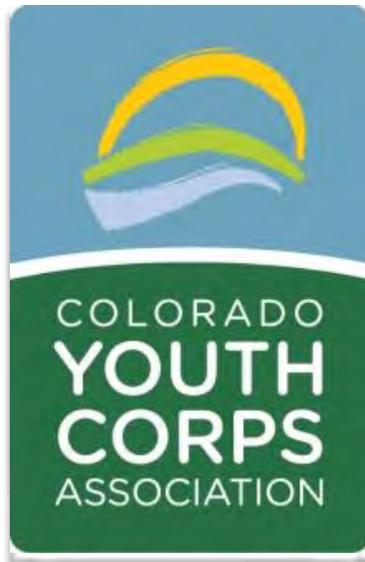




Youth Corps
Improving Ourselves  *Improving Our Community*



**2015 Season in Review &
20th Season Celebration**



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

Cover Photo: Historic Preservation Team in front of the Geer Cabin at Heil Valley Ranch



2015 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.

Staff:

Judy Wolfe
Program Manager

Amanda Goldstein
Field Coordinator

Liz Beatty
Rover

Amanda ("AmJam") Jameson
Environmental Education Rover



Boulder County Youth Corps

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★ *Improving Ourselves, Improving Our Community* ★

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20th Season Comments



I have a lot of great memories and stories from my 16 summers involved with the Boulder County Youth Corps! My first seven years were spent as a Sponsor for the Lafayette Team and since 2007 I've had the privilege to serve as the Program Manager. **THANK YOU** to all of the people who helped create the Youth Corps 20 years ago and to everyone who has "worked hard and played hard" in the BCYC!

One of my favorite memories is about Sean Durgee. I first met Sean in 2005 when he was 14 years old and a first-year Corpsmember on the Lafayette Team. He seemed small for his age and I wondered how he'd do with the tough physical work of the Youth Corps. Well, he went on to serve four years as a Corpsmember, three years as an Assistant Team Leader and one year as a Team Leader, so you never know who the Youth Corps bug will bite! I had a great time as a Sponsor and enjoyed coordinating the "Lunch Bunch" for the team where Corpsmembers got to meet VIPs like the Chief of Police or the Mayor and have lunch with them at a local restaurant. One year the Lafayette Team hosted the Louisville Team at Waneka Lake Park for our own version of the Youth Corps Olympics for some good-natured competition.

As the Program Manager, I absolutely LOVE the Corpsmember Orientation & Training Day! New Corpsmembers come in a little bit shy, not knowing if they'll know anyone on their team or not, and at the end of the day they all leave in twos and threes with their new best friends for the summer.

-Judy Wolfe, Program Manager

In the mid-1990s, there was a community visioning process in Boulder County that challenged the area to identify important issues and possible innovative responses. A prominent national journalist, Neal Peirce, was invited to Boulder to talk to community members, write articles about citizen interests and make suggestions about innovations. Peirce is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Citiscopes*, an organization that “spurs innovations to help cities work better for all of their people through the power of independent journalism.”

One issue identified by local residents was the lack of meaningful employment opportunities for young people in the community. Peirce ultimately suggested that a Youth Corps could be one way of addressing this issue. I was fortunate to serve on the Board of County Commissioners at the time and we decided to establish the Boulder County Youth Corps.* We provided the funding necessary to support the Youth Corps. Our vision was that young people 14-17 would be engaged in meaningful public service work in the community.

Over the years, the Youth Corps has performed with distinction. The size of the Corps has expanded and is now one of the largest, if not the largest local government Youth Corps in the country. It has expanded to include Youth Corps teams that work for most of the cities and towns in Boulder County as well as for county government departments.

The Youth Corps is yet another example of how Boulder County provides the best in public service.

-Ron Stewart, Parks & Open Space Director

**The other two Boulder County Commissioners in 1996 were Jana Mendez and Paul Danish.*

When Boulder County hired me in March of 1996, I became the very first employee of the Youth Corps. How we managed to go from just me to an organization of 100 Corpsmembers and 10 leaders working on 10 projects by June that year still astounds me. I have way too many excellent Youth Corps memories to pick just one. Working outdoors, building work ethic and leadership skills in people and leaving a trail of community benefits was and always will be my dream job. I ran into a team working at Twin Lakes over the summer, and I will say seeing the look of appreciation for what they are doing on the faces of the Corpsmembers still gives me a charge. I imagine I'm proudest of the Corpsmembers who come back year after year and then accept the challenge of honing their leadership skills as ATLS and TLs. I make it a point to hike on Boulder County Open Space at least once a month, and it makes me ultimately proud to reflect upon the thousands of individuals who have contributed over the past twenty years to the stewardship of our beautiful home which stretches from the purple mountains majesty to the amber waves of grain on the eastern plains.

-Rick Meyers, Founding Program Coordinator (served through March 2007)

Two memories stand out when I think of the Youth Corps. The first one happened before it even existed. There was a public meeting scheduled by the Commissioners to get input about the soon to be Youth Corps. I had already been selected to oversee it and was conducting the meeting. There was this guy at the meeting with a plethora of questions to the point of being annoying. My thought was he felt like he should be running it. Well, he did wind up organizing it. That person was Rick Meyers. I hired him as the Program Coordinator and he did a fabulous job!

The second key memory is how excited the Corpsmembers were to show me everything they were doing at Walker Ranch when I did an on-site visit. It didn't appear to be work for them at all. It was as if they couldn't wait to do their tasks.

-Arlen Stokes, Founding Administrative Services Director

One of my favorite memories was when I was Team Leader for the Housing Team. We were installing sprinkler systems at Boulder County low-income housing sites. The reason this is my favorite memory is because my team had the chance to work with and learn from my dad. He assisted the team in training us in proper installation; he taught the youth how prepare and install all the equipment. He also assisted the team in removing a concrete pad by bringing in heavier equipment and then allowing the youth to remove more manageable pieces of concrete by hand. This was a very special summer for the youth, me, and my dad. The youth got the chance to work with an older adult, a senior, and build a cross-generational relationship. They truly enjoyed learning work and life skills from him and connecting with another caring and involved adult. It was special for me because I got work alongside my father. I too learned new work and life skills and I got to foster the relationship between my father and the youth.

At the end of the summer the youth wanted to honor my dad for his teachings and work and they pitched in to purchase him a gift all on their own. It truly brought tears to my eyes to witness these relationships between our youth and my father. It was especially rewarding for my dad to work alongside the youth nearly all summer. He got to witness and experience the hard work ethic of a younger generation, he got to connect and joke with the youth and build relationships that I know has benefited those youth for years to come. I think it was especially rewarding for my dad to have the opportunity to pass on his knowledge and skills to eager youth who wanted to learn and demonstrate their knowledge to him. My dad was blown away by the work the Youth Corps teens do every summer; he was inspired by my leadership skills and my ability to empower and teach these young people. My father still speaks about this summer and every time we pass these properties he points them out to me and says, "Remember when..." I spent seven years in the Youth Corps and this summer will stick with me forever. It was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had with my father and my team of youth.

-Meca Delgado (CM 1997-1998; ATL 2002-2003; TL 2005-2007)

WOW! What a ride it has been. I owe so much to my BCYC experiences. As a Corpsmember I remember sharing so many laughs with teammates and Team Leaders, Sponsors and even Rick Meyers, the original Program Coordinator. My first summer was spent doing trail work at Heil Valley Ranch. We helped complete the upper loop trail which is now open for multi-purpose uses. I remember returning to that trail on my mountain bike with friends years later and biking past places where our team had struggled to move an unusually large boulder, and the place where we had enjoyed fun team building by constructing a rock bench that still stood!

Coming full circle this summer, I am back at Heil Valley Ranch working this time as a Team Leader. Our current 2015 season has been an amazing one. Working on two structures which were both built in the 1800s has been an eye opening experience. Connecting past generations of Boulder County residents to our lives gives a special appreciation of the place that we are so lucky to call home. I have left Colorado and come back time and time again and know that no matter where my life may bring me that Boulder County will always be the place that I call home. BCYC has instilled in me a unique respect and love of Boulder County lands that most will never know. We are the stewards of this beautiful land and it is our responsibility to protect it so that many generations down the road will be able to carry that same love and affection for this wonderful place where the Great Plains meets the Rockies.

-Kendrick Wyman (CM 2001-2002; TL 2014-2015)

My favorite memory of the Boulder County Youth Corps was the ability to learn about the outdoors with fun and educational EE games and lessons. I also loved being able to do something for the summer that is beneficial to the community.

-Kevin Wu (CM 2014)

My favorite memory from this past summer as BCYC Field Coordinator was having the privilege of teaching the Longmont Button Rock Team how to build a rock retaining structure on a trail they were improving. I worked with four Corpsmembers who were eager to learn about rock work and I was blown away by their enthusiasm and teamwork. They asked pertinent questions about the task at hand, took turns offering input about how to accomplish the task, and collaborated safely and effectively in moving some pretty large rocks! In this experience, I found myself motivated by the Corpsmembers, not the other way around. It was a reminder of why I love Boulder County Youth Corps and the work we accomplish; on a daily basis, there are so many opportunities for everyone involved to learn so much about themselves, teamwork, hard skills, conservation and preservation, and, of course, about the wonderful community in which we are a part!

-Amanda Goldstein (TL 2011; FC 2015)

My favorite memory is of playing “Camouflage” out in the woods during afternoon break.

-Thomas Miller (CM 2015)

My favorite Youth Corps memory was when my team introduced all of us newcomers to the team’s tradition of singing the “I’m a Little Teapot” song. It was the funniest thing I had seen all summer! The way my team takes pride in singing the song after finishing a slash pile is just amazingly cute!

-Inzinga (“Zinga”) Barge (CM 2015)

It's now been over two years since my time working as the Public Health Team’s Team Leader (pH pHresh!) in the BCYC, but hearing any of the songs that made it on to our summer soundtrack takes me back instantly. I have a killer poster board made by my team hanging in my apartment where the five members re-enacted a pose taken from the mighty, mighty "Breakfast Club," and I am challenged on almost a daily basis to be as kind and generous and considerate of others as some of the members of my team. And I have powerful memories of the time that Rover Ben Becker kicked off a Team Leader training by blowing me away with 20 of the nicest things anybody's ever said to me in front of our whole group. Some of the most interesting people that I've ever met were Corpsmembers and Team Leaders from that summer.

-Max Koch (TL 2013)



I remember one year, the Historic Preservation Team at Walker Ranch was working on the hay barn down behind the homestead. For their skit at the end of the year, they had made instruments out of the tools and materials they were using on their project. I have a distinct memory of walking out of my house and hearing "music" in the distance. It was amazing. And then to see them perform at the picnic was so amazing, it brought tears to my eyes!

-Ranger Amanda Hatfield; Parks & Open Space Sponsor (2011-2015)

Note: This skit is what prompted putting the winning skits online and a link can be found on our website or at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpCypcoJMRg&list=PL9F18E64CDED8F8FC&index=16>

My very first year, Jeff Cox was my Sponsor and we were trying to remove a rather large boulder from the ground to place a fence post. Jeff was using his Ranger with a chain attached to remove the rock and it was not budging! After a few tries with the truck, Jeff got out of the truck, got into the hole and picked the rock up himself!!! That wasn't the first time Jeff had done something like that... My third year he was trying to move a fence post that had been run into. When the truck he was using (this one was larger than the Ranger), wouldn't move the post, Jeff jumped out and wrapped his arms around the post and effortlessly moved it back into position! Moral of the story is, man-power is usually better than machinery! Once I became an ATL, and my Corpsmembers complained that the work they were doing would go a lot faster if they had machinery, I always told the "Jeff stories."

-Rachel Bashor (CM 2009-2010; ATL 2012-2014)

What I'd like to share is not a single memory in particular, but my overall impression of the BCYC. I think it's fantastic that you give teens a chance to get outside, work hard, learn important lessons, and make a difference in their community, all while working their first job. I've lived and worked in California, Colorado, New Hampshire, and Quebec, but in all my travels, I've never seen anything that compares to the BCYC. Teens in Boulder County are lucky to have such a wonderful opportunity, and I had a great time, too! Thank you for all that you do and please keep up the good work! And if any of my Corpsmembers from Lafayette (2007) or the Fairgrounds (2008) are reading this, thanks for the great memories. I loved working with all of you and I hope you've gone on to great things!

-Ian Frazzetta (TL 2007-2008)

My favorite memory for BCYC would have to be the time my team, Resource Management, all went to see "Ant Man" after work. It showed me not only is the group of 10 people my co-workers but also my friends.

Another favorite memory of mine during work was the first time we worked at the Agricultural Heritage Center. That day was the first time we got to work by animals. We were weeding in-between the cows and the pig fences. As we worked we noticed our outcome seemed smaller than what we pulled and we realized the goats on one side and the cows on the other side were eating the weeds!

-Maddie Robbins (CM 2014-2015)

As the Team Leader of six amazing young men and women, I enjoyed every morning showing them a map of Longmont, revisiting the vision, and observing them come up with a personal goal and team goal of how many light bulbs we were going to change together and seeing the satisfaction and pride on their faces when they reached their goals. It was an honor to work with these young men and women.

-Kerri Louck (TL 2009)

One summer, as the sun and heat became more oppressive, I was looking for small jobs that the Lafayette Team could do along the city's stream corridors. Previously, on a section of the Coal Creek Trail, we had a family come forward and dedicate a memorial bench for a son they had lost but who had spent time playing along the creek when he was younger. The family had fond memories of their son being so happy during those times and wanted a bench there so that the public would also have a chance to enjoy the creek; the bench was a heartfelt dedication and a perfect memorial for their son, but, the bench was next to the creek, about 100 feet from the trail.

There was a social trail to the bench but, over time, both the family and Lafayette staff felt that we needed to formalize a small trail to the bench. I thought this might be a nice, shady, cool Youth Corps task for a hot summer day. I'll admit, I was a little worried. We had decided to do a flagstone path to help signify that this trail was a short, spur trail to the bench. And, we felt the flagstone would help imbue the site with the respect that the memorial deserved. At the time, I had little experience building flagstone paths myself let alone giving instruction on how to do it to a group of kids. But, we had a great Team Leader and many mature, returning Corpsmembers, so I thought if I could spend the whole day with them on the project it would turn out just fine. Well, as soon as the weed barrier fabric, sand, and flagstone were delivered to the site, I was pulled away from the project on to some urgent open space need. I told them to do the best they could and I'd take a look at their progress at the end of the day. I didn't even have any time to check in with them during the day by phone.

When I finally could go back and check on the trail, I was thinking about what the family would think about this important connection from the main trail to the memorial bench, knowing that its appearance would be very important to them. Again, I was a little nervous. Would the kids understand the significance of this project? When I got to the site, I was just stunned. They had done some of the best flagstone work I had ever seen! They had worked hard as a team to arrange the pieces, almost like a puzzle, so that they fit perfectly together and laid them in the sand so carefully that they didn't stick up and create a tripping hazard. I remember the next day when I met them on site they were so proud of their work, showing me exactly how they found the right pieces for each spot. They wondered if the family and the public would like their trail... I stammered through my emotions and tears, "Yes... yes, this is just what the family was hoping for."

-Jeff Moline (Sponsor 2005-2013)



Season Highlights

1. Celebrated the 20th season of the Youth Corps with numerous activities, such as giving each employee and Sponsor a special cap, taking a group photo with everyone spelling out BCYC, and accepting memories on the website to be included in this final report (see pg. 1) along with compiling 20 seasons worth of accomplishments (see pg. 12).
2. Maintained 47% female Corpsmembers hired and hired 49% female Leaders.
3. Won a 2015 Boulder County Pinnacle Award for the Public Involvement category for Wildfire Partners, which utilized 2 forestry teams in 2014 as an in-kind match for a Colorado Department of Natural Resources grant. This project also won a highly coveted “Best in Category” National Association of Counties (NACo) Award.
4. Named a 2015 Boulder County Pinnacle Award finalist for the Disaster National Emergency Grant (the Youth Corps loaned resources to help accomplish flood debris removal). This project also won a highly coveted “Best in Category” NACo Award.
5. Named a 2015 Boulder County Pinnacle Award finalist for the Ruth Roberts Connector Trail completed in 2014 by the Recreation & Facilities Team to connect Boulder and Broomfield Counties. This project also won a NACo Award.
6. Welcomed Field Coordinator Amanda Goldstein to the team, who along with the Program Manager, was certified in Youth Mental Health First Aid[®] USA.
7. Added important information to the training materials for Leaders and Sponsors about serving as positive role models for teens.
8. Brought in a previous Team Leader who is now a therapist to talk with the Leaders this season about her research into the “teen brain” and implications for working with youth.
9. Determined by further research that the Boulder County Volunteer Corps as envisioned created too many areas of concern and so the idea was unfortunately put to rest.
10. Boulder County Commissioners increased the pay scale to match the increase in Colorado minimum wage. Hourly rates for first-year Corpsmembers were \$8.23; second and third-years \$8.48; and, fourth-years \$8.73.

Applicant Stats

LOCALITY	NUMBER	PERCENT
Boulder	66	20%
Erie	14	4%
Golden	1	< 1%
Jamestown	1	< 1%
Lafayette	47	14%
Longmont	135	42%
Louisville	22	7%
Lyons	2	1%
Nederland	5	2%
Niwot	8	2%
Superior	21	7%
Unacceptable	1	< 1%
TOTAL	323	

GENDER	NUMBER	PERCENT
Male	210	65%
Female	113	35%

Applications Received Last Five Years:

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
425	442	450	502	323

Corpsmember Stats

LOCALITY	NUMBER	% OF TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	% OF LOCAL APPLICANTS
Boulder	40	25%	61%
Erie	9	6%	64%
Jamestown	1	< 1%	100%
Lafayette	17	10%	36%
Longmont	65	40%	48%
Louisville	12	7%	55%
Lyons	1	< 1%	50%
Nederland	3	2%	60%
Niwot	5	3%	63%
Superior	10	6%	48%
TOTAL	163		

GENDER	NUMBER	PERCENT
Male	87	53%
Female	76	47%

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT
14	48	29.5%
15	56	34%
16	37	23%
17	22	13.5%

ETHNICITY	AA	A	AI	C	L	2
Male	2	1	1	65	11	7
Female	0	4	0	55	9	8
Percent	1%	3%	< 1%	74%	12%	9%

AA = African American A = Asian
 AI = American Indian/Alaskan Native
 C = White L = Latino 2 = 2 or more

Additional Stats

Returning Corpsmember Participants:

CM RETURNS	2 ND YEAR	3 RD YEAR	4 TH YEAR	RETURN RATE
76	35	32	9	51%

Corpsmember Completion:

COMPLETED PROGRAM	DISMISSALS	PROMOTIONS	RESIGNATIONS (for personal reasons)	COMPLETION RATE
155	1	0	7	95%

Corpsmember Bonuses:

CM RECEIVING BONUS	FULL	3/4	1/2	1/4
152	67	56	22	7

Workers' Compensation Claims:

CLAIMS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	COMPARED TO AVERAGE
10	\$20,451 <i>(used YTD figure since one claim still open)</i>	\$12,317

Property Claims:

CLAIMS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	COMPARED TO AVERAGE
0	\$0	-\$1,241

Project Accomplishments

This is a summary of the season's major accomplishments. The team 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:

1.9	Miles of Trail Built
3	Miles of Fence Built/Repaired
3.2	Miles of Trail Maintained/Closed
5.4	Tons of Debris Removed
6.1	Acres Weeded
6.4	Miles of Fence Removed
8	Areas Renovated
9	Signs Installed/Removed
11.3	Acres of Forestry Work
22	Tons of Material Moved
30	Structures Built/Cleaned/Stabilized
38	Public Art Pieces Inventoried/Cleaned
59	Cords of Wood Moved
100	Feet of Trenches Dug
100	Research Studies Assisted/Surveys Completed
189	Slash Piles Built
235	Structures Painted
350	Meters Cleaned
462	Trees Removed
1,053	LED Light Bulbs Checked/Replaced
1,360	Bags of Noxious Weeds/Debris Removed/Native Seed Collected
3,283	Trees and Plants Planted/Mulched
3,753	Flyers Delivered
4,540	Square Feet of Weed Mat Installed
7,314	Feet of Material Installed/Removed
38,278	Cubic Feet of Material Moved

20 Years of Accomplishments

A special **THANK YOU** is due to Field Coordinator Amanda Goldstein for compiling 20 seasons worth of data! Some figures are low because they weren't tracked in the early years.

Cumulative Major Accomplishments for 20 Seasons and a Few Fun Facts:

30	Miles of Fence Built/Repaired
39	Miles of Streams Assessed
45	Tons of Debris Removed
50	Miles of Fence Removed
53	Miles of Trail Built - <i>the distance from Longmont to DIA!</i> 
68	Signs Installed/Removed
106	Public Art Pieces Inventoried/Cleaned
151	Research Studies Assisted/Surveys Completed
181	Miles of Trail Maintained/Closed - <i>the distance from Ft. Collins to Pueblo!</i> 
310	Structures Built/Cleaned/Stabilized
350	Meters Cleaned
352	Areas Renovated
416	Acres Weeded
710	Cords of Wood Moved - <i>equivalent to moving 168 elephants!</i> 
820	Storm Drains Marked
1,027	Slash Piles Built
1,310	Acres of Forestry Work - <i>equivalent to over 1.5 Central Parks!</i> 
1,500	Structures Painted
3,689	Bags of Noxious Weeds/Debris Removed/Native Seed Collected
3,760	Items Assembled
8,872	Trees Removed
9,828	Square Feet of Weed Mat Installed
10,548	Tons of Material Moved
13,795	Feet of Ditches/Trenches Maintained/Dug
20,694	Light Bulbs Checked/Replaced
23,151	Flyers Delivered
23,321	Feet of Material Installed/Removed
38,146	Square Feet of Parking Lots Maintained
40,185	Trees and Plants Planted/Mulched
41,372	Cubic Feet of Noxious Weeds Removed and Native Seed Collected
105,649	Square Feet Planting Beds Reconstructed/Maintained - <i>equivalent to the square footage of almost 2 White Houses!</i> 
521,036	Cubic Feet of Material Moved



Agriculture

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Agricultural Resources

Project Hours:

1,028 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$14,000

Project Locations:

Bishop
Ertl
Gage
Harney-Lastoka
Rock Creek

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 3,705 feet of fence
- Removed 2,488 feet of fence
- Installed 3,200 feet of pipe
- Removed 27 cu feet of debris





Boulder

Sponsor Agency:

City of Boulder
Parks & Recreation
Department

Project Hours:

2,029 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$40,000

Project Locations:

Columbia Cemetery
North Boulder
Recreation Center
Valmont City Park
Various Parks and
Natural Areas

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Nederland

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Spread 1,136 cu feet of material
- Removed 94 bags of noxious weeds plus weeded 648 sq feet
- Maintained 720 feet of trails
- Built 1 staircase
- Cleaned and maintained at Recreation Center
- Painted 1 restroom building



Forestry 1



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Forestry

Project Hours:

2,006 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$10,000

Project Location:

Hall Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Erie
Lafayette
Louisville

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 45 slash piles
- Moved 30 cords of wood
- Weeded 2 acres





Forestry 2

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Land Use
Wildfire Mitigation

Project Hours:

2,008 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$24,000

Project Locations:

Mud Lake
Nederland

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Jamestown
Lafayette
Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 54 slash piles
- Moved 15 cords of wood
- Maintained or closed 3,783 feet of trails
- Dispersed wood chips and slash on 4.8 acres
- Cleaned the Nederland Mining Museum





Grounds

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Grounds

Project Hours:

1,941 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$24,600

Project Locations:

Boulder County
Fairgrounds
Rabbit Mountain
Twin Lakes
Walden Ponds

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 2,080 feet of fence
- Removed 52 feet of fence
- Constructed 90 feet of trail
- Removed 2 signs
- Mulched 16 trees
- Removed 24 bags of noxious weeds
- Refurbished 1 trailhead parking lot





Historic Preservation

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Buildings & Historic
Preservation

Project Hours:

2,054 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$20,000

Project Location:

Heil Valley Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Boulder
Nederland

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Preserved 3 buildings (Altona schoolhouse/outhouse and Geer cabin), which included 1) removal/addition of mortar on the schoolhouse, 2) building a flagstone foundation for the outhouse and adding cedar shingles to its roof and replacing its siding, and 3) replacing/reinforcing 224 sq feet of flooring and replacing 9 logs on the cabin plus removal/addition of wood chinking and daubing
- Installed 45 feet of French drain, built/restored 110 feet of flagstone path plus 332 sq feet of flagstone patios, and built 38 feet of stone retaining walls
- Removed 10,750 pounds of debris
- Removed 8 trees/bushes





Housing

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Housing & Human
Services

Project Hours:

2,053 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$18,000

Project Locations:

Lafayette
Longmont
Lyons

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Erie
Lafayette
Louisville

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 2 dumpster enclosures
- Built 1 handicap ramp
- Built 38 feet of trail with 120 sq feet of seating area
- Repaired/fixd drainage along 50 feet of sidewalk
- Removed 115 bags of noxious weeds
- Removed 23 bags of debris plus trimmed 2,550 sq feet of plant material
- Repaired 36 feet of fence
- Installed 690 sq feet of weed mat





Lafayette

Accomplishments:

- Planted/watered 84 plants
- Removed 280 bags of noxious weeds
- Painted 3 structures
- Installed 7 signs
- Removed 2 trees
- Built 1,300 feet of fence
- Removed 1,500 feet of fence
- Built 196 feet of trail
- Maintained 660 feet of trail, including installation of a culvert

Sponsor Agency:

City of Lafayette
Open Space

Project Hours:

2,068 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$34,000

Project Locations:

Coal Creek Trail
Flagg Park
Great Park
Greenlee Wildlife
Viewing Platform
Powerline Trail
Rock Creek Trail

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Lafayette

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

1 Assistant Team

Leader





Longmont Button Rock

Sponsor Agency:

City of Longmont
Water Resources

Project Hours:

1,922 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$33,000

Project Location:

Button Rock Preserve

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont
Niwot

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Removed 10 cords of logs to be used as firewood and built 90 slash piles on 5.5 acres
- Prepped 2.75 cords of wood by peeling bark
- Maintained 580 feet of trail and built 9 steps
- Cleared 610 feet of drainage and installed 4 culverts
- Removed woody plant material and willows from 5-acre Ralph Price Dam downslope



Longmont Power & Comm

Sponsor Agency:

City of Longmont
Power &
Communications

Project Hours:

951 hours

Project Estimated

Value:

\$16,900

Project Locations:

Cal-Wood Education
Center
Longmont Residences
Power &
Communications
Warehouse

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Longmont
Niwot

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Checked/replaced 1,053 LED light bulbs on residential light pedestals throughout Longmont, which completed the Pedestal Light Bulb Change Out Program!
- Prepped/painted 222 residential light pedestals
- Cleaned 350 meters, tested 225 meters and entered 152 meters into inventory
- Placed 150 stickers on pedestals and notified 80 homes about painting
- Removed 1 bag of noxious weeds
- Removed 3 cords of logs to be used as firewood
- Cut dead Aspen snags on 1 acre





Louisville

Sponsor Agency:

City of Louisville
Parks & Recreation
Department

Project Hours:

1,090 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$46,500

Project Locations:

Aquarius
Centennial Park
Louisville Elementary
School
Road Underpasses
Various Parks and
Open Space
Properties

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Louisville
Superior

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 1,059 feet of trail
- Painted 2 underpasses and 1 gazebo
- Spread 32,660 cu feet of mulch (most at Louisville Elementary School as part of GOCO grant-funded playground replacement)
- Secured 970 feet of wooden edging for mulch beds
- Pulled 2,000 sq feet of algae from pond
- Installed 3,850 sq feet of weed mat
- Planted 6 shrubs
- Removed 50 bags of noxious weeds and weeded 4 acres
- Collected 11 bags of debris





Public Health

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Public Health
Environmental Health

Project Hours:

1,091 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$10,000

Project Locations:

Boulder
Erie
Lafayette
Longmont
Louisville
Niwot
Superior

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Boulder
Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Delivered information to 2,673 residences
- Maintained 50 feet of trail
- Removed 32 bags of debris from waterways
- Dug 50 feet of trenches for better drainage for mosquito mitigation
- Inventoried bike and auto parking at 30 schools
- Stained 1 restroom
- Planted 4 trees
- Weeded and maintained 1 community garden, composting 25 bags of noxious weeds





Recreation & Facilities

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Recreation & Facilities

Project Hours:

2,093 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$11,750

Project Locations:

Betasso Preserve
Boulder County
Fairgrounds
Lagerman Reservoir
Twin Lakes
Walker Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont
Niwot

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 1,296 feet of fence
- Removed 240 feet of fence
- Maintained 5,340 feet of trail
- Constructed 2 bridge embankments and helped move a 6,000 pound bridge dislocated in the 2013 flood 25 yards with a winch
- Maintained 3 parking lots by replacing/repairing 67 parking stops and remodeling 1 bench pad
- Removed 17 bags of noxious weeds





Resource Management

Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Resource
Management

Project Hours:

2,041 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$34,000

Project Locations:

Agricultural Heritage
Center
Betasso Preserve
Caribou Ranch
Hall Ranch
Heil Valley Ranch
Rabbit Mountain
Various Open Space
Properties

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities

Corpsmembers

Hired From:

Longmont
Lyons

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built/repaired 3,366 feet of fence and removed 29,370 feet of fence
- Planted 3,115 plants for flood restoration
- Removed 2,640 feet of pipe
- Cleaned 3 structures
- Moved 235 cu feet of material
- Removed 396 trees
- Collected 5 bags of native seed
- Removed 548 bags of noxious weeds
- Stacked 100 bales of hay
- Worked on 15 different properties



Superior

Sponsor Agency:

Town of Superior
Parks, Recreation &
Open Space

Project Hours:

1,914 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$39,700

Project Locations:

Asti Park
Autry Park
Purple Park
Richmond Property
Snowmass Trail

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Louisville
Superior

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Maintained 4,153 feet of fence by painting/replacing 436 boards
- Maintained 5,580 feet of trail by spreading 21 tons of material and digging 1,000 feet of water bars
- Reset 439 feet of railroad ties
- Moved 1,000 pounds of dirt to fill a pond
- Removed 20 bags of noxious weeds
- Removed 5 bags of debris and cleared debris from 6.6 acres
- Cleaned 1 underpass
- Rehabilitated 9 frisbee golf tee boxes



Sustainability

Sponsor Agency:

Town of Superior
Parks, Recreation &
Open Space

Project Hours:

1,043 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$12,000

Project Locations:

Boulder
Longmont
Lyons
Nederland
Niwot

Number of Corpsmembers:

5

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader

Accomplishments:

- Maintained 45 feet of trail and dug 50 feet of trenches
- Inventoried and cleaned 38 art pieces
- Delivered information to 1,000 residences
- Spread 100 cu feet of mulch
- Chipped, primed and repainted 4 bike racks and varnished 1 cabin
- Removed 2,700 cu feet of willows and planted 58 plants
- Built 1 compost container and installed 20 feet of pipe
- Moved 1 cord of wood
- Removed 6 bags of debris
- Removed 90 bags of noxious weeds and weeded 2 community garden plots
- Acted as “Zero Waste Champions” at the Boulder County Fair for 2 days and conducted 70 surveys about recycling habits



Trails 1



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Trails

Project Hours:

2,008 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$25,000

Project Location:

Walker Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Longmont
Niwot

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 2,014 feet of trail and 2 retaining walls
- Moved 1,000 pounds of material to improve trail and removed 8 tree stumps
- Rehabilitated 5,875 sq feet of disturbed area

The estimated value is an accumulation of both trails teams.



Trails 2



Sponsor Agency:

Boulder County
Parks & Open Space
Trails

Project Hours:

1,901 hours

Project Estimated Value:

\$25,000

Project Location:

Walker Ranch

Number of Corpsmembers:

10

Cities Corpsmembers Hired From:

Boulder
Lafayette
Longmont
Nederland

Number of Team Leaders:

1 Team Leader
1 Assistant Team
Leader

Accomplishments:

- Built 6,835 feet of trail, 2 retaining walls and 2 culverts
- Moved 858 cu feet of material to improve trail and removed 48 tree stumps
- Cut and dispersed 580 cu feet of branches and small trees
- Weeded 1 picnic table pad

The estimated value is an accumulation of both trails teams.



Corpsmember Comments

- I have worked hard to improve my leadership skills, particularly with the younger Corpsmembers.
- I am glad I was able to add to the team by leading my fellow Corpsmembers and contributing to the team dynamic.
- The Youth Corps is a fantastic program. I looked forward to returning all year for all four years.
- My first year in the Youth Corps changed my life and was where I met some of my best friends.
- I love making a difference in my community and helping others.
- I'll never forget the people I met, friends I made, and smiles I saw when my team helped people.
- I helped out my team's new Corpsmembers to grow and learn.
- I enjoyed working with the Youth Corps this summer a lot! I did things that were new to me that I had never imagined doing, and I also enjoyed working with other people.
- This summer in the Youth Corps, I have grown and learned a lot about the work place, environment and tools.
- I have strengthened muscles I never thought I would use and I enjoyed my time working.



Congratulations to Jenna Nielson, the 2015 Corpsmember of the Year!

- Jenna said of the season, "I think that I managed to figure out what type of leader I can be, and what role I can assume as a part of a team."

-Longmont Button Rock Team

- I feel that I have improved my leadership skills during the season because I have learned what each person on a team needs in order to stay motivated and accomplish the task at hand.
- I've had a great season. I really enjoyed working with the team and having them all as friends as well.
- I grew as an individual and as a team player.
- The people on my team are hard working with amazing personalities.
- I have grown this season into a more respectful person when it comes to nature and the environment.
- I have made an amazing bond with my fellow Corpsmembers.
- I have had a life changing experience to spend four summers with Corpsmembers who became my family.

Team Leader Comments



- I loved my team, I loved our work, and I loved the opportunity to work for the BCYC!
- My Corpsmembers are walking away from this summer stronger and more mature than when they walked in, and that alone makes me feel like more was accomplished this season than I ever could have asked for.
- I have seen my confidence grow, and I am so thankful for all of the ways that I have been pushed out of my comfort zone in this position. But, even more than my own growth, I have loved getting to see the growth of my Corpsmembers!
- I have learned from my team, the work we did, my ATL, and from working with the community, how important the Youth Corps is to everyone involved.
- I am proud of my growth as a leader and mentor.

- I'm so happy and grateful to have had this experience and I will take my new experiences and growth with me!
- My Corpsmembers were a very strong and motivated group and I was honored to get to know them.
- My TL was a great mentor for me this summer. I have enjoyed observing her leadership techniques in hopes of improving mine.
- I loved all the work we did this summer, but what I loved more was getting to know the Corpsmembers individually. They are all so unique and just a ton of fun to be around.
- This summer was very challenging yet rewarding. It really made me grow as a person and better develop my leadership style and skills.
- Staying positive and pushing my Corpsmembers to be all that they can be, while maintaining that positive relationship, was something that I'll never forget.
- I learned that if you set the goal high it can be achieved even if it seems impossible.
- This job allowed me to find a leader within myself that I had not seen before – the Youth Corps often brings out the best in people.

Sponsor Comments

- I always tell folks how wonderful it has been to work with the Youth Corps. Our partnership with the City of Lafayette is so much stronger as a result and the transformations the city will experience with regards to bike and pedestrian infrastructure are amazing. The Public Health Team helped us move the city 10-15 years ahead in bike/pedestrian planning – so cool!
- Working with many partners to manage the land makes the Corpsmembers part of the community and leads to better future land stewards. A few team members are pursuing college education in natural resources as a result of their time in Youth Corps.
- BCYC allowed me to get done what I needed to get done...plain and simple. I wasn't expecting on enjoying working with the team as much as I did and how they kept the great attitude and work ethic going consistently through the season! They put a smile on my face each and every day!
- It was an absolute pleasure working with the Youth Corps this summer. I can't give the Corpsmembers enough praise as I was impressed daily by their work ethic, attitude and attention to detail.
- It was interesting to see relationships grow, and leaders develop. I think that's the goal of the program, so congrats for hitting a homerun!!
- We had a very successful season!



Congratulations to Chase Stewart, the 2015 Sponsor of the Year!

- Chase said of the season, "I had a great time with my group this year; we accomplished more than I expected we would. Having the Youth Corps also gave me the opportunity to sharpen my management and leadership skills. I can't wait until next year!"

-Recreation & Facilities Team

- We love this program and are so grateful for the skilled and enthusiastic students who spend their summers with us.
- This is a great program for the kids in our town to appreciate what they call home and take a sense of ownership for all of their hard work. Two of the kids on the squad loved doing crusher-fine repairs because they said they use the trail systems on a daily basis. We truly value and appreciate what the BCYC does for our town.

Environmental Education

Lessons Taught:

LESSON	DESCRIPTION
National Parks: Preservation vs. Access	Learned about National Parks and the tensions between the use and preservation of our wild spaces. Corpsmembers extrapolated how these issues affect Boulder County open space and ended with a discussion on how they could get involved.
Left Hand Outdoor Challenge & Ranger Duties	Park Rangers described the Left Hand Outdoor Challenge program and taught Corpsmembers what they do. After explaining about the rules in place on open space, Corpsmembers were presented with three scenarios involving rule breakers and asked to decide about ticketing and other repercussions.
Wildlife Detectives	Education & Outreach employees led an investigation of an area set up with animal leavings, such as scat, skeletons, skins and tracks. Corpsmembers were given supplies with which to set up their own natural scenarios, making their teammates guess what events had happened in their areas.
Picky Eaters & Endangered Species Decision Making	In "Picky Eaters," Corpsmembers were assigned diets, discussed animals that could have those diets and were sent out to find food. They then experienced how changes to the environment affected the food supplies of each animal. Afterwards, in "Endangered Species Decision Making," Corpsmembers were given a chance to try to save some of the animals worst affected by environmental change by using a fixed budget to support various projects related to endangered species.

What Leaders Said:

- "The EE portion really helped me to engage my group and see a tangible shift in the way they think about and hopefully subsequently treat the environment."
- "EE was hands-on, creative, fun and educational."
- "It was fun to see the Corpsmembers analyze the scene and give out tickets."
- "I liked that the Corpsmembers got to meet a Ranger and act as one themselves to better understand what Rangers do."



What Corpsmembers Said:

- "I enjoyed the resource discussion because I thought about the environment in a way I hadn't before."
- "I learned that Park Rangers do more than hand out tickets."
- "I enjoyed learning about animal tracks because it forced me to use my creativity and detective skills."
- "It was fun learning about animal tracks because I hunt and I learned things I didn't know about."