



Week of June 22

Flora and Fauna, Not Always Friendly

YEP crews began their second week with another Monday packed with education, featuring an introduction to invasive species and how they wreak havoc upon ecosystems across the globe. The Anchorage Park Foundation's Invasive Plants Program Coordinator, Tim Stallard, followed up with an in-depth presentation on specific invasive plant species and their impact on the fragile ecosystems here in South-central Alaska. YEP projects often involve removing these invasive plants from park land in Anchorage, and preventing their further spread.



Meeting the Lake

On Monday afternoon, YEP crews got to know their second work project of the summer, Little Campbell Lake, via double kayak. Despite a strong breeze and threatening rain, all crew members were eager to set forth upon the water after a lesson on the basics of water recreation safety. Crews took turns exploring the lake in their rented vessels, rotating with crews who stayed on shore to search for, identify, and distinguish between the invasive and native plant species in the area surrounding the lake.



Youth Employment in Parks

To Contact YEP:

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Debate Activity

Little Campbell Lake is owned by the Ted Stevens International Airport, but the Municipality has had a long standing "usage and maintenance" agreement. With this spirit of public land cooperation in mind, YEP crews concluded their education day with an activity focused on the importance of both public and private land ownership. Crews were introduced to the legal process of Eminent Domain and presented with fictional cases where Eminent Domain would be invoked. Two crews were charged with assembling a convincing argument in favor of state and local governments invoking Eminent Domain, while the others constructed an argument favoring private land owners. A vigorous yet civil debate ensued.

Back at it

Located within Kincaid Park, Little Campbell Lake has many recreation opportunities including fishing for stocked rainbow trout, kayaking, trails, and a beach for swimming. Last week, the YEP crew stabilized sections of the lake bank with riparian restoration, and performed tread improvements on the loop trail around the lake. The crew also built a new gravel access road for the fish stocking truck that will be concealed by the grass.



A Week by the Lake



Little Campbell Lake was a great setting for the week. YEP crews enjoyed great weather while they worked hard, and learned hard!



Park Fix-Its

for more information, visit anchorageparkfoundation.org/programs.

Arctic Benson Park: July 12
Pop Carr Park: July 19

Park Fix-Its are a great opportunity for YEP members to log volunteer hours for the Civic Engagement Contest!



YEP Summer Project Schedule

Week 0 May 27-30

Orientation and First Aid/CPR certification

Week 1 June 3-7

Training week. Crews learned about the program and receive training on trail building & safety.

Week 2 June 9-13

Campbell Creek Stream bank restoration, Campbell Creek Estuary Trails

Week 3 June 16-20

Beach restoration, Trail Enhancements at Little Campbell Lake

Week 4 & 5 June 23-July 3

Soft Surface Trail improvements at Far North Bicentennial Park

Week 6 & 7 July 7-18

Equestrian trail improvements at Ruth Arcand Park

Week 8 July 21-25

New soft surface trail at Moen Park

Week 9 July 28- August 1

Vegetation maintenance on the Chester Creek Trail

Week 10 August 4-7

Mentorship week where the crew members will explore career & educational opportunities for successful futures.

Work Day Checklist

Crew members: each day, Before heading out the door, make sure you have everything you need!

- Packed Lunch
- Water
- YEP T-shirt
- Work boots
- Sturdy work pants
- Work gloves
- Safety glasses
- Hard hat
- Rain gear
- Warm layer
- Municipality ID
- Positive attitude!



Hard Work Pays Off

This Friday, YEP teens receive their first paycheck. As part of the teens' first job experience, YEP and Wells Fargo want them to learn to handle their income responsibly. As a sponsor and partner of the YEP program, Wells Fargo brings financial education content to YEP on every payday. Topics include: How to open a bank account, managing your credit, and student loans.



Eddie (Edouard Seryozhenkov) is our first crew member of the week. Congratulations, Eddie!

Mayor's Marathon

Saturday, June 21, 8:00 AM
Delaney Park (the Park Strip)

Meet Mirna Estrada (907) 240-1397 at 8AM on the Park Strip.
Receive a free Polypro T-shirt for volunteering!





SCA's YEP Alumni Crew

While the four crews of teens have been working hard, so has the alumni crew!

Earthquake Park

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the 1964 earthquake, SCA's YEP alumni crew trimmed over grown brush, painted bollards, and sanded benches last week. The main YEP crew came in on Friday and painted the fence and benches the SCA prepared for them. Together, they refurbished about 70 bollards, 13 benches, 4 bike racks and 3 tables.

Russian Jack Springs Park Bridge

This week the SCA's YEP Alumni Crew maintained two bridges in Russian Jack Springs Park. Using gravel, they built ramps to increase accessibility to one bridge. On the other bridge, they replaced hand rails to increase safety for trail users.

More About YEP

The Youth Employment in Parks program is a cooperative effort between Anchorage Park Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to coordinating people and resources to improve Anchorage's parks, and the Municipality of Anchorage. APF and the Municipality, while separate entities, often work closely together to accomplish these goals. YEP would not be possible without its many sponsors and supporters. Please visit anchorageparkfoundation.org/programs/youth-employment-parks/yeppartners!



Weekly Work Schedule

* Hours are projected but subject to change

Each day starts and ends at Russian Jack Springs Park chalet, unless otherwise specified.

Crew Members		Sr Crew Members		Crew Leaders	
Monday	8:30-4:30	Monday	8:30-5	Monday	8:30-5
Tuesday	8:30-4:30	Tuesday	8:30-5	Tuesday	8:30-5
Wednesday	8:30-4:30	Wednesday	8:30-5	Wednesday	8:30-5
Thursday	8:30-4:30	Thursday	8:30-5	Thursday	8:30-5
Friday	8:30-3:00	Friday	8:30-5	Friday	8:30-5

Journal Assignment of the Week

YEP Crew: This week, your journal prompts are:

What is urban wilderness interface?

What percentage of the world's water is drinkable? (guess)

What are ways you can help to conserve natural resources?

Please answer these in your journal and drop it in the box at the chalet.