



Week of July 13

Ruth Arcand Equestrian Trails

Thanks to a grant from the Alaska State Legislature via the Anchorage Park Foundation, the Anchorage Horse Council and YEP have partnered to provide trail enhancements in the Ruth Arcand Equestrian Park. Crew members are using D-1 gravel to harden trail surfaces and are installing new culverts to improve drainage. YEP teens will continue to work on this project next week.



Resource Management

Today's youth are faced with the challenge of our continued dependence on exhaustible energy. With this in mind, YEP teens spent Monday morning exploring energy resource management and renewable energy, participating in an activity designed to simulate energy consumption in the United States over the next century. Crews were presented with the very real possibility that coal and petroleum will be depleted within the next two centuries. YEP teens also discussed modern advancements and increases in renewable energy production, coming away with a clear understanding that their generation will be at the forefront of the battle to ensure we will have the energy resources needed to sustain our way of life for generations to come.



Youth Employment in Parks

To Contact YEP:

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Ross Williams, Field Educator
Williamsro@muni.org

Horse Riding Activity

Having the opportunity to saddle up and ride a horse for the first time can be both an exciting and nerve-wracking experience. Thanks to volunteers with the Anchorage Horse Council, a number of YEP teens were lucky enough to have that experience on Monday afternoon. However, before crews got their feet in the stirrups, members of the Horse Council educated them on horse behavior and the extensive responsibilities that come with being a horse owner. By the end of the day a number of teens had new and profound appreciation for our equine friends.

An Uphill Battle



Federal Friends

On Wednesday, Michael Connor, Deputy Secretary of the Interior, paid a visit to Anchorage and participated in a picnic at Dave Rose park where he gave a speech and Q&A session to spectators including the YEP teens. Connor is an avid supporter of open park spaces in urban areas such as Anchorage, and utilizing the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1964. Connor was nominated for Deputy Secretary by President Obama in 2013, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate unanimously last February. Connor is a prominent figure in the field of national environmental and conservation issues. YEP teens, as well as the other attendees, learned about what it's like to be involved in decision-making at the federal level, regarding these issues.



The gravel for this week's project had to be hauled down a steep hill, which was a new challenge for YEP crews to overcome.



Park Fix-Its

for more information, visit anchorageparkfoundation.org/programs.

Arctic Benson Park: July 12
Pop Carr Park: July 19
Moen Park: July 26

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!



Commuter Challenge

Eddie is the Current leader of the Commuter Challenge! Don't forget that any time you walk, ride a bike or take the bus to work, mark all of your trips on the chart in the chalet.



Kong Lo (King Kong the Strong) is crew member of the week. Fear him.

Arctic Benson Park Fix-it

Saturday, July 12 (tomorrow!)
9:00 - 12:00

Join us at 750 W. 31st Ave and join other volunteers to pick up trash, remove graffiti, paint bollards, and remove invasive weeds. Contact Mirna Estrada at 907-343-4587 for more info.





Alumni Crew

The SCA's YEP Alumni crew has been working at the Bureau of Land Management's Campbell Creek Science Center. They have worked on the Lynx Trail and the Smokejumper Trail clearing brush and making tread improvements. The crew repaired an Aspen Ranch re-vegetation fence to protect baby aspen trees from moose in the winter.



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	8:30-3:30	Friday	8:30-5	Friday	8:30-5

Journal Assignment of the Week

YEP Crew: Don't forget to write in your journal and drop it off at the chalet! The questions will be posted on the whiteboard.

Video Blog

Videos will be posted weekly, featuring YEP crew and staff. Subscribe to the APF youtube channel and check up on the YEP facebook regularly to make sure you don't miss any of the posts! You can find the YEP facebook at facebook.com/ye panc. We encourage you to share our posts on your own facebook as well.