



Week of June 15

Campbell Creek Estuary Natural Area

This week, the YEP crew repaired trails and improved drainage at the Campbell Creek Estuary Natural Area. Their first week on project, the crew learned to work together as an efficient team, spreading gravel and getting to know each other. Last summer, YEP teens built the very first trails here in partnership with the Great Land Trust. We expect to see more improvement throughout the year as the crew leaders and senior crew become more acquainted with their crews, and everyone continues to gain strength and discipline.



Solar Technology

YEP crews had the opportunity to explore Anchorage's growing solar energy production by touring some of the city's larger solar projects. Solar engineer and director of Ladders to the Sun, Andy Baker invited crews to see the inner workings of solar energy production by touring two of Anchorage's more extensive solar projects, Loussac Place and the Solar Building downtown. Not only did YEP teens get to see solar panels up close, but Mr. Baker explained to crews the steps needed to efficiently utilize solar energy and the importance of a solar powered future.

Youth Employment in Parks

To Contact YEP:

C. Allen Truitt, Program Manager
907.343.4504
Truittca@muni.org

Ross Williams, Field Educator
Williamsro@muni.org

Water Testing Activity

Healthy communities need healthy streams and YEP crews kicked off their first education day of the season by experiencing this first hand. Crews began the day by taking water samples from Campbell Creek, sampling both upstream and downstream of Anchorage. The samples were then tested for indicators of stream health including pH, phosphate & nitrate levels, dissolved oxygen, temperature and the presence of coliform bacteria. Meg Perdue and Katrina Mueller of the US Fish and Wildlife Service also gave crews the opportunity to examine the macro-invertebrates that sustain Anchorage's extensive fish population. All results indicated that Campbell Creek is indeed a healthy waterway.

Local Government

YEP crews were introduced to the importance civic engagement, the function of local government and the important role YEP plays within the Municipality of Anchorage. Teens learned the importance of voting and all crew members of voting age began the voter registration process.



Up Next

Next week, YEP crews will be spending time at Little Campbell Lake. They will be renovating the trails and restoring the beach. The shoreline has eroded and is in dire need of maintenance to provide swimmers and kayakers a nice entry point into the lake.

The teens will begin the week with another monday filled with education and recreation opportunities!

PARK FIX-ITS

for more information, visit anchorageparkfoundation.org/programs.

Roosevelt Park: June 16
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!

Potter's Marsh Discovery Day



Last Saturday, the YEP teens helped to host this fun family event with fishing practice, archery, birding, and other great activities.



YEP Summer Project Schedule

Week 0 May 27-30

Orientation and First Aid/CPR certification

Week 1 June 3-7

Training week. Crews will learn 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!



Campbell Creek Greenbelt

On Monday and Tuesday, two YEP crews re-vegetated the Chester Creek Greenbelt, near the New Seward. The Department of Transportation built a new bridge on the highway, allowing the Campbell Creek Trail to connect underneath it. The US Fish and Wildlife Service provided the funding and direction for the YEP crew.



CLOSING DINNER

Tuesday August 5th 5:30 PM
Kincaid Outdoors Center

Mark your calendars now!

Family & friends are invited to celebrate all of the accomplishments YEP teens will make this summer.





2014 Sponsors & Partners

We would like to thank the following organizations and groups, for helping to make YEP a reality this year!

- Alaska Department of Fish & Game
- Alaska Geographic
- Alaska State Legislature
- Alaska Youth for Environmental Action
- Anchorage Youth Hiring Center
- Anchorage School District
- Catholic Social Services – State Refugee Program
- Chugach Children’s Forest
- Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge
- Great Land Trust
- Recreation Equipment Inc. (REI)
- Student Conservation Association
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Wells Fargo
- YWCA

Many individuals get involved with YEP, by helping conduct education activities. Contact us if you want to contribute!

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.



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 Question of the Week

YEP Crew: This week, your journal question is:

What do civil engagement and environmental stewardship mean to you?

Please write about this in your journal, and drop it off in the box at the Russian Jack Springs Park chalet.