This week the crews worked at Westchester Lagoon, Far North Bicentennial Park, Campbell Creek Park, and the Tour of Anchorage Trail. The work at Westchester Lagoon is part of an Indigenous Place Making movement to creatively and accurately highlight the cultural history of Anchorage and our First People – the Dena’ina. The teens installed grass rolls at the toe of the bank and planted Iris flowers and two types of grasses - Tufted hair grass and Feather reed grass. The crews cut tree branches encroaching on the trails at Far North Bicentennial Park. At Campbell Creek Park, the teens planted eighty spruce trees. At the Tour of Anchorage Trail, crews removed invasives, improved sight lines, and laid down gravel to improve drainage and cap the existing trail. On Friday, the teens will be volunteering at the Musk Ox Farm, and hiking Hatcher Pass, for their Ed Rec activities.
Community Corner

This week we want to highlight our partners at Alaska Trails. Alaska Trails strongly supports expanding and maintaining sustainable trails throughout Alaska. Alaska trails have been a significant and consistent supporter of YEP for many years, including providing our Trail Contractor.

Work/Tool Safety

Loppers
The teens used loppers at the Far North Bicentennial Park to cut tree branches encroaching on trails. Crews learn that loppers should be kept sharp and should not be used to cut branches thicker than a thumb.
Crew Member of the Week

This award is given to crew members who are outstanding employees of YEP.

Ashley Decker
Ashley’s favorite thing about YEP is that it is easy to make friends and meet peers from different communities in Anchorage. Ashley’s favorite YEP tool is the cement trowel. In her free time, Ashley likes working with children and painting. A fun fact about Ashley is that she was born in New York.

Crew Lead Comments

Brent- Ashley commented the second week into her YEP career about working harder, and she had done just that for the past month. She has been a model employee of work ethic, inclusivity, and positivity.
Education/Recreation

This week the crews’ Ed Rec day will be spent volunteering at the Musk Ox Farm, and hiking Hatcher Pass.

Last week the Crews visited Portage Valley.

The teens visited AWCC, hiked to Byron Glacier, and explored the Begich Boggs Visitor Center.
This week we are excited to be outside and work on Anchorage’s beautiful trail system, and we are thrilled to have you working alongside us! Next week the crews will be working at the Far North Bicentennial Park and the Campbell Track alongside our BLM partners.
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