



YEP Newsletter

07.07.2023

The Latest at YEP

This week, YEP crews planted trees on park land along Campbell Creek Trail near Taku Elementary School. We split up into groups, planting trees along both sides of the trail. As they grow over the next several years, these white spruce trees will help the trail look and feel better for trail users and park visitors. Planting lots of trees also helps support the area's wildlife. Spruce trees were removed from the area after being killed by spruce beetles, and we are working hard to replace those trees with young saplings. In addition, we located and removed invasive Bird Cherry plants from along Campbell Creek Trail.



Written by Raif Jones, Senior Crew Member



Work Safety

Watch out for plants like Cow Parsnip and Devil's Club that can cause pain and damage to your skin. Be aware of what plants you are walking through and wear long pants.

Community Corner

Thank you to Arctic Valley Ski Area for letting YEP park and hike for free during our Ed/Rec Day last week and for speaking to YEP teens about career opportunities!





Crew Member of the Week



Jonathon

Jonathon's favorite tool is a tamp. In his free time, he likes to build aquariums and go scuba diving. Jonathon's favorite part about YEP is getting good exercise and helping the environment.



Education and Recreation



Last Friday, YEP went hiking at Arctic Valley Ski Area! We followed a brand new trail up toward Hunter Pass, with stunning views of Anchorage and the Chugach Mountains. After enjoying our lunch in the valley, staff at Arctic Valley Ski Area spoke to YEP teens about job opportunities.

In the afternoon, we went to the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center to do team building activities. These activities were fun while helping YEP teens build their communication and leadership skills.





The Weeks Ahead

Projects

Next week, we will begin constructing new single-track trails in Russian Jack Springs Park. These trails will provide in-town access for beginner and intermediate mountain bikers in a part of the park that has limited existing trails and recreational uses. These trails will be a huge improvement to the north side of the park.





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