

North Fork Conservation Corps Program Outline:

What: A pilot program that engages diverse groups of youth in stewardship, educational and recreational activities around the North Fork designed to cultivate confidence, leadership, and collaborative skills.

The goal is to provide an experience for teens to learn the value of natural resources and the value of service to each other, the community, and the environment.

This program serves the community by providing safe, supervised, and enriching activities for teens in a time where in-person programming is scarce.

Who: Teens, 15-17 years old. Teams will be co-ed and from diverse racial, economic and social backgrounds.

Where: 7 Bends State Park

Teams: NFCC teams consist of 8 teens with 1 adult mentor per group. The mentor for each group will be present at each service and educational activity day.

Schedule and Duration: Once per week, on Fridays, for 6 weeks, starting Sept 25 and ending on October 30th. NFCC teams will alternate Fridays between working on a service project at the park and participating in experiential learning activities. The program begins with a work day and ends on an experiential learning day.

Daily Structure: All days will start at 9am and end at 3pm, with a 45- minute lunch break at noon. The team mentor will be present for the entirety of each day.

Service Days: Corps members will be accompanied by their team mentor and at least 1 adult park staff. Service projects will be designed by Seven Bends State Park. Corps members will be given documentation of their service hours.

Activity Days: Corps members will be accompanied by their team mentor and at least 1 activity leader. The 3 activity days will center around the geography of the park and include educational, skill-building and recreational activities led by qualified individuals.

Transportation: Students will need their own transportation to and from Seven Bends State Park.

Lunches: Students will bring their own lunches.