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AmeriCorps Support Continues in 2012

A continuation grant from the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) will permit MCC to field 244 young adult members in 2012.

MCC Kicks Off 20th Field Season with Day of Service

More than 225 MCC AmeriCorps members converged at Camp Paxson in Seeley Lake for orientation and training, marking the official beginning to MCC's 20th field season. Members receive training in first aid, chain saw safety, communications skills, conflict resolution, and backcountry foundations. The week culminated with a day of service at Paxson to reduce fire hazards and prepare the grounds for the upcoming season.



MCC Launches Veterans Green Corps

In collaboration with [Veterans Green Jobs](#), MCC is excited to field two veteran crews this season as part of our Veterans Green Corps program. Participants receive S212 saw certification through the [Colorado Fire Camp](#) and will spend 8 weeks in the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest on fuels reduction projects. This is a new arena for MCC and an exciting opportunity to explore new ways to leverage the corps-model to help young veterans transition to civilian service, leadership, and green jobs. Watch Veteran Green Corps Crew Leader Don Morse talk about the program [here](#).

AmeriCorps Week Spotlight: Eastern Wildlands

In celebration of AmeriCorps Week, members of the Eastern Wildlands region, along with nearly 20 community volunteers, cleared fire damaged trees from Lockwood area homes. Teams worked with [Lockwood FireSafe Council](#) to remove over 15 hazard trees from around the homes. Residents aware of the hazard, but unable to perform the work on their own, were grateful for the assistance. For members of the Eastern Wildlands, it was a welcome chance to make their community a safer place.



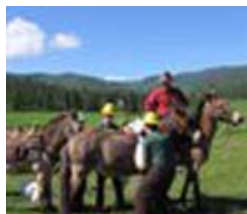
Other AmeriCorps Week projects included the construction of a new section of trail at Waterworks Hill in Missoula with Hellgate Senior High, a volunteer event at Janet Street Community Garden in Helena, the planting of a community apple orchard with the Billing's Salvation Army, and the construction of a nature trail at Jackson's Community Garden in Sheridan, Montana.

Collaborating to Increase Recreation Opportunities



Round Up!

MCC will host regional alumni events this summer to provide an opportunity for alumni to reconnect and reminisce. Stay tuned here and on our [facebook page](#) for more information.



MCC AmeriCorps members in Kalispell worked alongside community volunteers and members of the [Backcountry Horsemen](#) to construct new section of trail at Herron Park. Members of the Backcountry Horseman packed in gravel as volunteers from Flathead Youth Home, Kalispell Daybreak Rotary, and Montana Academy cut new trail and helped distribute gravel. More than 40 youth and adult volunteers donated their time and got their hands dirty to increase recreation opportunities in this popular public land area.

Wanted: T-Shirt Design to Commemorate 20th Anniversary

This season, MCC celebrates 20 years of service, conservation, and hard work, and we want YOU to design a commemorative t-shirt. The winning design will be made into a t-shirt, which will be available at various events throughout the season, and will be used to help define what it means to be a part of the MCC experience. Contest is open only to MCC members, alumni, board, partners, and staff. Deadline for submissions is July 31, 2011. Contact [Jen Rusnak](#) for more details and an application.



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