



AmeriCorps Project Conserve **Summer of Service 2017** **Service Description**



AmeriCorps Position Title: AmeriCorps Summer of Service Team Member (5 positions)
Host Site: Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
Address: 847 Case St. Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone: 828-697-5777
Fax: 828-697-2602
Website: www.carolinamountain.org

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy is dedicated to protecting and stewarding land and water resources vital to our natural heritage and quality of life and to fostering appreciation and understanding of the natural world.

CMLC's AmeriCorps Project Conserve Summer of Service is a program that engages young people between the ages of 17 and 19 in meaningful service in western North Carolina. With direction from the Summer of Service Coordinator and other CMLC staff, the team of 5 members will serve the community through a variety of outdoor projects including wildlife habitat restoration, trail building, park improvements, stream restoration, wildfire mitigation, and more. While enhancing and maintaining natural areas, members will receive leadership and conservation skills training to help prepare them for what comes next.

Members will complete projects throughout Henderson, Transylvania, Polk, Rutherford, and other adjacent counties. Transportation from the CMLC office to the service sites will be provided.

Service Term Commitment:

Members must serve a minimum of 300 hours over 9 weeks from June 19, 2017 – August 18, 2017. The schedule will be 40 hours per week or M-F from 9:00am-5:00pm. Some weekends may be required.

Benefits:

In addition to training, members will receive a \$3,000 living stipend over 9 weeks, paid twice per month. Upon successful completion of the program, members will also receive an AmeriCorps education award of \$1,221.96 that can be used to pursue higher education.

Eligibility

- At least 17 years of age and no older than 19 years of age at the start of the program.
- Parental (or legal guardian) consent to participate (if under 18).
- Pursuing a high school diploma or GED, or a recent high school graduate.
- A citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States, and consent to and be cleared through the National Service criminal history check process.
- Be able to provide valid photo ID, social security card, and proof of high school/GED enrollment or graduation.
- Be able to fulfill the essential functions of the assigned work with or without reasonable accommodations

Qualifications – Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- No experience is required, but applicants should have an interest in the environmental field and being outdoors.
- Motivated, self-aware, and open minded
- Willingness to learn and follow all AmeriCorps and Summer of Service policies
- Commitment to safety, health, and well-being of the team, the natural environment, and the surrounding community
- Actively committed, willing, and able to work on physically demanding projects in the outdoors

Position Responsibilities and Duties / Essential Functions

- Participate in all Summer of Service activities including trainings, service projects, member evaluations, and check-ins.
- Complete required paperwork including timesheets, evaluations, and exit paperwork
- Work with peers to plan and coordinate community service project
- Remove non-native invasive species to restore wildlife habitat and reduce fuel loads
- Restore streambanks and other wildlife habitat by planting native plants
- Construct new trails and maintain existing trails
- Improve public access areas by installing a nature playscape, building and improving signage, etc.
- Assist with data collection on lands burned by 2016 Party Rock Fire

Equipment / Software Used: Hand tools including loppers, pruners, handsaws, shovels, rakes, sledge hammers, etc., Computer

Physical Demands: Hiking up to 5 miles, Standing for up to 8 hours, Lifting approx 50lbs, Bending, Digging, Working outdoors in potentially extreme weather conditions including rain or heat

Transportation Needs: Need to provide their own transportation to the CMLC office

Setting / Location of Service Activities: 20% office, 80% field

Essential functions are the fundamental job duties:

- *Meaning the position exists to perform the function;*
- *There is a limited number of employees among whom the performance of the function can be distributed;*
- *And/or the incumbent is hired for expertise or ability to perform the function due to its high specialization.*

The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and associated Federal regulations protect qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in all areas of employment. To be considered qualified; an individual must be able to perform the essential functions of a position, with or without reasonable accommodation. It is important that the physical tasks associated with the essential functions be identified appropriately so that persons with disabilities can determine if any accommodation is necessary.