



AMC's Youth Opportunities Program Summer 2018 Youth Programming



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OVERVIEW

YOP is offering three opportunities for the summer of 2018 for youth to participate in independently. These programs are run in partnership with other branches within the AMC organization: [Teen Trail Crews](#) and [Teen Wilderness Adventures](#). Participation is based on youth interest and YOP member nominations, and spots are limited, so an application does not guarantee admission. This packet contains important information about the programs, as well as links to application forms and a YOP Member nomination form.

DIRECTIONS:

1. **Read the program descriptions CAREFULLY.** While all of these programs will offer youth the chance to be outdoors, develop skills and leadership, and meet peers from other schools/programs, they differ in content and the participant selection process. On the next page is a chart offering a brief comparison of the three programs; we encourage YOP members to consider these factors when nominating their youth or assisting them in filling out applications. Additionally, while youth are welcome to apply for all programs, they will be ineligible to be selected for more than one due to space considerations.
2. **Contact YOP Staff with any questions** about the programs or application process.
 - Teen Trail Crew – Nate Schumacher (nschumacher@outdoors.org)
 - Wilderness Adventure and Advocacy Program – Megan Luce (mlyuce@outdoors.org)
 - Youth Outdoor Leadership Adventure – Tim Chen (tchen@outdoors.org)
3. **Complete the application by the DEADLINE listed.** Follow the links below to reach an online Google Form. A YOP Member should fill out the nomination form, which is the same for all programs. Youth should fill out the application form(s) for the program(s) they are interested in applying to. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, so it is better to submit sooner rather than later.

IMPORTANT: When filling out the Google Forms, we recommend typing up answers in a word processing document before copying and pasting into the form in order to avoid spelling and grammatical errors.

YOUTH APPLICATIONS (follow links for application):

- [Teen Trail Crew](#) – **3/17/2018 deadline**
- [Wilderness Adventure and Advocacy Program](#) – **4/1/2018 deadline**
- [Youth Outdoor Leadership Adventure](#) – **4/15/2018 deadline**

YOP MEMBERS (follow link for nomination form)

- Please complete one [Member Nomination Form](#) per youth you are nominating!
4. **Wait to hear back about your status in the program.** Youth can expect to be contacted within 2 weeks of submitting their application. Some programs may require a phone interview as a next step in the application process.
 5. **If accepted, expect to fill out other forms (medical, release, etc.) to complete your registration.**

	Teen Trail Crew	Wilderness Adventure and Advocacy Program	Youth Outdoor Leadership Adventure
Who should apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth who are interested in developing trail building skills, which can be beneficial for applying for jobs in the outdoor industry. Youth who are looking for a more significant resume builder. Youth who are interested and/or need to fulfill community service hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth who have demonstrated leadership skills in outdoor clubs or programs. Youth who have an interest in learning about public lands and/or conservation policy. Youth who are interested in building advocacy and leadership skills that can be applied beyond conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth who have demonstrated leadership skills in outdoor clubs or programs. Youth who are interested in taking on more leadership roles, assisting with future activities, or mentoring newer students for the upcoming school year. We prefer applicants who will be present for the coming school year, as this trip will emphasize taking a leadership role the following year.
Dates	6/24-6/29	7/15-7/28	8/13-8/19
Summary	A 6 day camping trip with an emphasis on learning and applying trail work skills. Camping is in an established campground with showers. Up to 40 hours of community service possible.	A 14 day camping trip with an emphasis on conservation advocacy. Activities will include backpacking, canoeing, and camping, while learning about our public lands and building advocacy skills.	A 7 day camping trip with an emphasis on leadership development. Activities will include hiking, canoe camping, and rock climbing, with outdoor skill development also a focus.
Location	Harold Parker State Forest North Andover, MA Working on the Bay Circuit Trail	White Mountain National Forest, NH Squam Lake, NH Boston, MA	White Mountain National Forest, NH Connecticut River, NH
Days outdoors	6 days, 5 nights	14 days, 13 nights	7 days, 6 nights
Accommodations	Tent Camping Showers – Potable Running Water	Tent Camping 2 nights in a lodge	Tent Camping
Physical expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is in up to 3 hour chunks with lunch and snack breaks. Work includes digging, lifting, and using hand tools, so expect to sweat! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to hike 5-10 miles over strenuous terrain with 30+ lb pack. Ability to participate in 3+ hours of canoe paddling per day while canoe camping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to complete 5+ mile hike with 5 lb backpack. Ability to participate in 3+ hours of canoe paddling per day while canoe camping.
Group size	2 AMC Trails instructors, 8 youth	2 AMC instructors (1 YOP), 8 youth This course is open to non-YOP youth.	2 AMC instructors (1 YOP), 8 youth

2018 AMC/YOP Teen Trail Crew on the Bay Circuit Trail

June 24-29, 2018

In partnership with AMC's Teen Trail Crew which provides full scholarships for all YOP youth (\$370 value)

OVERVIEW

YOP's Teen Trail Crew is ideal for adventurous teens aged 14-18 interested in the experience of camping and learning or improving on outdoor skills, while engaging in a meaningful conservation service project. Crews are co-ed and is a beginner crew teaching the basics of trail maintenance. Participants are eligible to receive community service hours for their volunteer work.

This trip is open to a maximum of 8 youth participants (rising high school freshmen – high school seniors) who have applied and worked with an adult YOP member (a teacher or youth worker who has been trained by YOP). To participate, youth must:

- Have participated in at least one overnight or two single day trip experiences with the organization's YOP member in the previous year. Your teacher, counselor, or youth worker adult (YOP Member) will provide a recommendation in the application process.
- Be able to complete and return the required trip forms by March 17, 2018.
- Show an interest in the trip and improving his/her outdoor skills.
- Show interest in improving his/her leadership skills.
- Be able to commit to the whole timeframe of the trip.
- Agree to work to the best of your ability on the group's project and follow an AMC code of conduct.

Applying does not guarantee a spot on the trip, as YOP may receive more nominations than the number of participants we can accommodate. *Application forms are due by March 17, 2018. Participants (and the nominating YOP member) will be contacted by late March. 1-2 participants per school/agency at most will be initially accepted, though more may be accepted on a rolling basis.*

ITINERARY

Sunday, June 24th: Trail Crew Members will arrive at Harold Parker State Forest in North Andover, MA at 4PM. The group will set up tents, make dinner together, and start learning about the week's projects.

Each Day's Rough Schedule: For Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday

7 AM- Wake-Up

Breakfast

Pack Lunch

8 AM- Head to the Trail Site using Van

Morning Stretch and Briefing

9 AM- Start Trail Work

10 AM- Snack and Check-In

Noon- Lunch

12:30- Resume work

2 PM- Snack

4 PM- Clean Up site, pack it up, head back to camp

Wednesday: The group will work on the trail project until around noon and then YOP's Nate Schumacher will be leading a canoe outdoor adventure with the group for the rest of the day.



Friday, June 29th: The group will break down camp, clean the trail tools, and prepare for pick-up around noon.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The group's campsite at Harold Parker State Forest's Lorraine Campground is accessible via car, and the trail crew will be camping in tents sites with the surrounding woods providing a small buffer from general public campers. The site has picnic tables, a fire ring, and swimming access. There is no electricity at the site, but there is access to potable water. The bathroom has running water and hot showers for end of the day cleanup. Ladies and Gentlemen will be in separate tents. There are dish sinks provided at the bathhouse for ease.



TRAIL WORK: AMC's experienced Trail Crew Leaders provide training on trail maintenance and restoration. Each weekday, the crew will drive and/or hike to a reconstruction or maintenance project on the Bay Circuit Trail. Due to the variable nature of trail work (priorities may change overnight based on weather and conditions), we will not have detailed information on your crew's specific project until you arrive. Projects may include: clearing brush to better define the trail, creating drainages, installing structures like bog bridges or information kiosks, updating signage or trail markers, and other crucial stewardship tasks. Our volunteer trail crews are designed to accommodate all levels of trail work experience safely and enjoyably. If you are brand new to trail work, we will teach you all the techniques. AMC will provide all tools, training, supervision, safety equipment and first aid (all staff has Wilderness First Aid certification or higher). Local conservation professionals and experts may visit to shed light on local history, ecology, and land management.



Please complete application (weblink on page 3) by March 17, 2018.
Questions? Contact Nate Schumacher, YOP Outdoor Adventures and Partnerships Coordinator
Email: nschumacher@outdoors.org • Phone: 617-391-6599





July 15-28, 2018

2018 Wilderness Adventure and Advocacy Program

In partnership with AMC's Teen Wilderness Adventures Program, AMC's A Mountain Classroom, and The Wilderness Society.

OVERVIEW

There's no better way to build your advocacy skills than traveling in the wilderness while you do it! Spend two weeks backpacking and canoeing through the beautiful White Mountains of New Hampshire while learning how to raise your voice for our public lands and conservation. The trip will be led by a YOP Staff Member and A Mountain Classroom staff member.

This trip is open to a maximum of 8 youth participants (rising high school juniors – graduating high school seniors) who have applied and worked with an adult YOP member (a teacher or youth worker who has been trained by YOP). To participate, youth must:

- Have participated in at least one overnight or two single day trip experiences with the organization's YOP member in the previous year.
- Be able to complete and return the required trip forms by April 1, 2018.
- Show an interest in the trip and improving his/her outdoor skills.
- Show interest in improving his/her leadership skills.
- Be able to commit to the whole timeframe of the trip.

Nomination does not guarantee a spot on the trip, as we may receive more nominations than the number of participants we can accommodate. *Nomination forms are due by April 1. Participants (and the nominating YOP member) will be contacted by April 15. YOP members may nominate 1-2 participants per school/agency.*

Dates and Times: July 15 (9:00AM) – July 28 (12:00PM), 2018

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: AMC Youth Opportunities Program, 6 Spice Street, Suite 12, Boston, MA 02129

Group Size: 8 youth and 2 AMC Instructors. This course is open to the public for application on the AMC website (www.outdoors.org), so there will likely be non-YOP youth on the trip. All youth will go through the same application process. Expect about half the participants to be YOP youth.

****Cost:** The cost associated with the trip is \$2,779 AMC member / \$3,057 non-member. However, full and partial scholarships are available to YOP youth, awarded on a need-basis. Cost should not be a deterrent to applying for the trip, as financial aid is available to all who need it. You will be asked to fill out a simple Scholarship Request form as a next step in your application.



ITINERARY

July 15: Trip Begins in Boston

Meet at the AMC Headquarters in Boston for a gear issue and get to know the participants and instructors. Drive to a campground in the White Mountains and learn how to set up camp.

July 16-21: Backpacking in the Pemigewasset Wilderness

Hike through some of the most incredible scenery in New England, summit beautiful 4,000-footers, and camp at night in both established and wilderness campsites. Days will consist of 5-10 miles of hiking, carrying all of our food and gear, and cooking our meals as a group. We will spend time on leadership development, policy curriculum, and learning about our public lands.

July 22-23: Advocacy and Policy Workshop

Spend two days at the AMC's Highland Center with presentations from guest speakers about conservation advocacy and collaboration on policy projects. Enjoy showers and hot meals!

July 24-26: Canoeing at Squam Lake

Drive to the Lakes Region and hit the water for three days of canoeing on Squam Lake! Learn how to paddle and canoe to camp each night. Then drive to Boston and set up camp at AMC's Ponkapoag Pond campsite.



July 27: Boston Policy Day

Head to Boston for a final day focused on policy and advocacy. Close our time together with an evening campfire and celebration at Ponkapoag Pond.

July 28: Pick-Up in Boston

Break down camp, debrief the trip, and de-issue gear. We will end the trip back at the AMC Headquarters with lunch for participants and their families.

Accommodations: We will be tent camping throughout the trip, and youth will share tents with up to 3 others of the same gender. Camping will take place at both established campgrounds as well as backcountry campsites that we hike or paddle to. Two nights will be spent at the AMC's Highland Center, with access to showers and electricity. The final two nights will be spent at AMC's Ponkapoag Camp outside of Boston.

Please complete the application (weblink on page 3) by April 1, 2018!

Questions? Contact Megan Luce, YOP Coordinator

Email: mluce@outdoors.org • Phone: 617-391-6567

2018 YOP Youth Outdoor Leadership Adventure

August 13-19, 2018

In partnership with AMC's Teen Wilderness Adventures Program

OVERVIEW

YOP's Youth Outdoor Leadership Adventure is a unique opportunity for YOP trip participants to spend seven days in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and on the Connecticut River, rock climbing, canoeing, camping, and honing their outdoor leadership skills with youth from other YOP member agencies and AMC's experienced instructors. The trip will be led by a YOP Staff Member and a Teen Wilderness Adventures Staff Instructor.

This trip is open to a maximum of 8 youth participants ages 14-18 (rising high school freshmen – high school seniors) who have been nominated by a YOP member. To participate, youth must:



- Have participated in at least one overnight or two single day trip experiences with the nominating YOP member and/or on a direct service trip with YOP staff in the previous year.
- Be nominated by a YOP member.
- Be able to complete and return the required forms (sent out after acceptance notification) by June 1, 2018.
- Show an interest in the trip and improving their outdoor skills.
- Show interest in improving their leadership skills.

Nomination does not guarantee a spot on the trip, as we may receive more nominations than the number of participants we can accommodate. *Nomination forms are due by April 15th. Participants (and the nominating YOP member) will be contacted by May 1st. YOP members may nominate 1-2 participants per school/agency.*

ITINERARY

Monday, August 13: Meet at AMC's headquarters, 6 Spice Street, Boston, MA 02129 at 9am. Depart for AMC's Pinkham Notch Visitor Center and Joe Dodge Lodge. Camp at Covered Bridge Campground (US Forest Service), Albany, New Hampshire.

Tuesday, August 14: Day hike in the Moat Mountain range. Camp at Covered Bridge Campground.

Wednesday, August 15: Rock Climbing with Eastern Mountain Sports Climbing School. Camp at Covered Bridge Campground.

Thursday, August 16: Drive to canoeing put-in on the Connecticut River in New Hampshire. Paddle to camp!

Friday, August 17 and Saturday, August 18: Paddle and explore the river. Camp at remote campsites.

Sunday, August 19: Paddle to our canoe take-out. Pack up and drive back to Boston



ACCOMMODATIONS:

We will be tent camping throughout the trip, and youth will be sharing tents with up to 3 others of the same gender. We will spend the first two days of the trip camping at the Covered Bridge Campground outside of North Conway, New Hampshire, and the next four days exploring various campsites along the Connecticut River in New Hampshire.

***Please complete the application (weblink on page 3) by April 15, 2018!
Questions? Contact Tim Chen, Outdoor Adventure Coordinator
Email: tchen@outdoors.org • Phone: 617-391-6591***

