



Conservation Corps FAQ's

- What to bring?

Upon being selected to serve in the Rocky Mountain Conservancy-Conservation Corps, you will be provided with a full packing list.

- What is provided?

The Conservancy provides work clothing (uniform shirt, uniform pants, hiking boots, and hiking socks) for every member. Additionally, the Conservancy has camping gear available for members to use during the season. Camping gear available includes:

- Rain jacket
- Rain pants
- Tents
- Sleeping bags
- Sleeping pads
- Camp stoves
- Camp cookware
- Backpacks
- Water filters

This gear is loaned out after receiving a \$50 deposit, which will be returned to the member once gear is returned to the Conservancy in working condition.

- What is a day-to-day schedule like?

Crews typically work a 4-10 schedule. This is four consecutive 10-hour workdays. Work weeks do not necessarily correspond with a traditional work week. Depending on the project, crews may work any four consecutive days (i.e. Monday-Thursday, Wednesday-Sunday, Friday-Monday, etc.). Work days typically begin between 6:00-7:30AM and wrap-up between 4:30-6:00PM.

Training, education, and final week have different schedules with less hours worked each day.

- Where do we stay?

Crew locations can be found at our website at: <https://rmconservancy.org/work-with-us/conservation-corps/crew-locations-rocky-mountain-conservation-corps/>.

A map outlining past project locations for each crew can be found at: https://tdocal.github.io/RMC_Project/

- Will we encounter wildlife?

Wildlife encounters are frequent in the Conservation Corps. Members often see elk, deer, and many smaller animals. Crews may also encounter bears, coyotes, bobcats, and moose. These are less common interactions. The Conservancy provides crews with appropriate training and information on how to safely view wildlife and what to do if an encounter is too close.

- Is food provided? How do the crews coordinate meals?

The Conservancy does not provide food for the crews. The provided living allowance is intended to support food purchasing. Crews typically coordinate meals together and often share food purchasing and preparation duties. This helps promote a more communal experience and cuts down on food costs.

- Will we have access to cell-phone service?

Cell-phone service varies significantly based on crew location. The biggest thing to know is cell-phone service is spotty in the Colorado mountains. Even in developed mountain communities it is common to have limited cell-phone service. The Poudre Crews are the only crews who have to travel a distance to access cell-phone service or wi-fi. All other crew locations have service and wi-fi nearby their housing sites.

- What amenities are provided at the campground?

The crews living at front-country campgrounds (Estes, Boulder, and Shadow Mountain) have access to restrooms (pit toilets), potable water, and trash onsite. Shower and laundry facilities are located nearby at work centers or other defined areas. These crews receive an additional \$100 during their first stipend payment to support additional expenses associated with camping (i.e. ice for keeping food cold, fees for laundromat use, etc).

- Who supervises the Conservation Corps?

The Conservation Corps program is supervised and managed by the Director of Conservation. The Director is the supervisor of record for all members/leaders. Seasonal Field Coordinators help to oversee the program through field visits to crews during projects and facilitating training and orientation activities.

- How is the Conservation Corps supported during their work?

The Conservation Corps crews work closely with USFS and NPS staff. All crews, except for the Poudre Crews, work with agency staff on a daily basis. The Poudre Crews work more independently on projects identified by USFS and RMC staff. All crews have access to agency radios for work and emergency communication. Additionally, crews working with USFS staff receive satellite communication devices for emergency communication and daily check-ins.

- What is the AmeriCorps Education Award?

As an AmeriCorps program, the Conservation Corps provides members and leaders with an AmeriCorps Education Award upon successful completion of the service term. This award can be used toward college tuition, student loans, professional certifications, and many other educational/professional development expenses. More information is available at: <https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/amicorps/segal-amicorps-education-award>.

If you have additional questions, please contact Geoff Elliot, Director of Conservation, at (970)586-3262 or Geoff.Elliot@RMConservancy.org.