



**AmeriCorps**



# AmeriCorps Service Member

## Onondaga Earth Corps and the Youth Conservation Corps Model

The Onondaga Earth Corps (OEC) is a youth development program focusing on community and environmental stewardship in Syracuse, NY. Similar to other Youth Conservation Corps across the country, OEC hires youth and young adults to educate the community about the benefits of environmental stewardship through completing environmental and neighborhood improvement projects.

### Position Overview

AmeriCorps Members will serve a minimum term of 300 hours during which they will support logistics and field work including tree, rain garden and natural areas maintenance, invasive species prevention, and outreach. Members must undergo a standard background check, and be either a U.S. Citizen, a U. S. national, or lawful permanent resident of the U.S. Members will receive a living stipend and an education award upon successful completion of their term.

### Work and Responsibilities

Training for this position may include: 1 to 2 overnight trips; formal and informal technical training in conservation, green infrastructure, and urban forestry; best practices for Youth Conservation Corps; youth development; professional development; and some training in truck and trailer driving. Training will not exceed 20% of total term hours.

Service member work may include some or all of the following activities:

- Urban Forestry work will include outreach programs with community partners and maintenance of young trees in public places across Syracuse.
- Green Infrastructure work will include weeding, mulching, trimming and otherwise improving green spaces that manage city stormwater runoff across Syracuse.
- Natural Areas work will include vegetation control, natural areas maintenance, riparian buffer planting, tree identification, and community engagement with local residents.
- A leadership project that is individualized to the AmeriCorps Service Member and works to serve the community. A final report and presentation are due by the end of the service term.
- Regular heavy manual labor for extended periods of time and under adverse weather conditions: This job is hands-on and outdoors, most every day.
- Actively participate in regular training sessions focused on developing the professional and technical skills required for OEC's tree planting and green infrastructure program, which include community outreach, environmental education and leadership.

- Work effectively as a team member, and work well with other corps members, staff, OEC partners and the public.
- Ability and willingness to learn and apply new work skills, including public presentation skills.
- Support logistics and participate in day-to-day details of OEC crews.
- Teach and/or present project information to a wide range of students, as well as community organizations and the general public.

## Qualifications

- Young Adults, age 17 to 25 at the start of the program. This position is not suitable for current high school students or those students with significant classwork during work hours.
- High School Diploma, High School Equivalent, or proof of enrollment towards a similar degree.
- Ability to listen, understand and carry out verbal and written instructions
- A positive attitude and a willingness to learn and lead if required
- Sense of humor, spirit of adventure, and desire to have a positive influence in our community!

## Member Expectations

If selected, AmeriCorps members must adhere to OEC Policies and may not participate in any Prohibited Activities as outlined in the Member Service Agreement while in service at OEC. Some of these prohibited activities are:

- Attempting to influence legislation;
  - Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;
  - Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office;
  - Participating in, or endorsing, events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, political platforms, political candidates, proposed legislation, or elected officials;
  - Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, maintaining facilities primarily or inherently devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization;
- A ½ hour lunch is required Monday through Thursday and does not count towards your term of service hours

## Position Summary

Program Position	AmeriCorps Service Member (ages 17 to 25)
Status	Seasonal, Part time (Average 30 hrs/week): Mon-Thurs from 9am-4:30pm, Fri from 9am - 12pm, some evenings and weekends are required. Work hours are subject to change.
Compensation	Living allowance of \$6000 plus an education award upon successful completion of term. The Education award amount for the 2023-2024 program year is \$1,459.26 for the 300hr minimal time slot.

AmeriCorps Member's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_