



2025-2026 Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation AmeriCorps Program

Position: AmeriCorps Conservation Steward

About Preservation Parks of Delaware County

Preservation Parks of Delaware County is a public agency that manages over 2,400 acres of natural areas, encompassing 13 parks open to the public and 6.5 miles of the Ohio to Erie Trail. Our mission is to protect and conserve the natural and historic features of Delaware County and to inspire outdoor exploration and learning. We are seeking an individual who is passionate about environmental stewardship and eager to make a meaningful impact on natural spaces within a park district setting.

AmeriCorps Program & Position Overview

AmeriCorps is the federal government agency for national service and volunteerism in the U.S. This is a national service position affiliated with the Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation AmeriCorps State Program. Preservation Parks of Delaware County is serving as one of 9 different AmeriCorps member host sites for the Collaborative. Through this position you will be part of a 16-member cohort for the 2025-2026 program year.

- **Duration:** Full Time term of national service that requires a minimum of 1,700 hours of service to be served over the course of one year (September 8, 2025 – August 31, 2026).
- **Hours:** Typical schedule is 7:00 AM-3:30 PM, Monday to Friday. Work hours are set to 40 hours per week, unless adjusted due to seasonal changes, weather, projects, or events. May include some evenings, weekends, and holidays.
- **Reporting Location:** Hogback Ridge Park, 2656 Hogback Road Sunbury, OH 43074. (Note: AmeriCorps Conservation Stewards will complete work in all parks throughout the district).
- **Report to:** Natural Resources Specialist.

Responsibilities

Primary Responsibilities

- **Invasive Species Management:** Primary focus is on invasive plant management projects that include herbicide application, along with maintaining application equipment and records.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Planting/collecting/processing native seed; native tree planting and care; drain tile management; prairie management including preparation/wrap up/record keeping associated with these projects.
- **Surveys and Photography:** Assist with biotic and habitat surveys, take photos.
- **Volunteer and Outreach Events:** Assist Park volunteers during group events. Assist with park programs, community events, and outreach.





- **Equipment Maintenance:** Conduct routine maintenance of vehicles and equipment.

Additional Activities to Be Performed

- Assist with maintaining facilities and grounds in the parks to provide a safe and clean environment. Assist with general maintenance, trail, and construction projects.
- Assist with public programming, community events, marketing, social media, and interpretive displays.
- Participate in conservation project workdays, trainings, and team-building activities with program cohort.
- Support on-the-ground conservation work for other program host sites (activities to be preapproved by the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator).
- Complete member timesheets, program reports, and other administrative items as scheduled.
- Participate in ServeOhio sponsored programs and activities.

Minimum Eligibility

- Must be a U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien.
- Must be at least 17 years of age by start date of service.
- Possession of a high school diploma or GED equivalent certificate.
- Ability to pass criminal background checks (having a background does not automatically exclude you from the position).
- Have a valid driver's license, auto insurance, and reliable personal vehicle for service-related activities.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds.
- Ability to traverse up to 1 mile over uneven terrain, potentially carrying equipment, tools, and supplies with or without accommodation.

Preferred Skills and Qualifications

- Ability to operate a broad spectrum of vehicles and equipment including trucks, tractors, ATVs, backpack sprayers, and chainsaws.
- Ability to work outdoors in adverse weather conditions (heat, cold, insects, poison ivy, etc.) in rugged terrain.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision.
- Ability to identify or learn common flora and fauna, including invasive plant species.
- Course work or interest related to natural resources, ecology, or botany.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office and Google Suite.

Benefits of the Full Time Term of Service Position

- Living stipend distributed in equal biweekly payments of either \$844 or \$915 before taxes (to total up to \$22,984 or \$23,790 before taxes), contingent on AmeriCorps funding.





- The living stipend does not impact eligibility for government assistance programs (such as SNAP).
- Segal Education Award of up to \$7,395 (contingent upon completion of service) that can be used toward qualifying student loans and/or future educational expenses (such as tuition, fees, and supplies).
- Access to federal student loan forbearance while actively serving, including forgiveness of interest accrued during service (contingent upon completion of service).
- Full Time AmeriCorps service is considered qualified employment for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.
- Supplies and travel reimbursement of up to \$200 each.
- Access to member health care and childcare during the term of service.
- Training stipend of up to \$250 and a guarantee that at least 10% of service hours (170 hours) are dedicated to professional development activities.
- Ability to work alongside environmental professionals and build a career in the environmental field.
- Potential opportunity to renew.

How to Apply

Please complete an online application via this [link](#). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Priority applications are due by July 13th, but the application will remain open until all positions are filled.

Please contact the AmeriCorps Coordinator, Abby Thiel (athiel@franklinswcd.org), with any questions.



Reference Links

Program Website: <https://www.franklinswcd.org/ameri-corps>

AmeriCorps Website: <https://americorps.gov/>

ServeOhio Website: <https://serve.ohio.gov/home>

Preservation Parks Website: <https://preservationparks.com/>

*Disclaimer: This position constitutes a *national service* opportunity and NOT employment.

