

Rocky Mountain Conservancy Conservation Corps FAQ



What is the timeline of the hiring process?

Applications for the 2026 Corps are open as of October 17, 2025. Crew Leader and Crew Member applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with interviews happening from December to March. It is a very competitive hiring process, so please apply early! The Corps roster will be set by mid-April 2026.

What should I bring for the program?

Upon being selected to serve in the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Conservation Corps, you will be provided with a full packing list. At a minimum, you will need to provide your own off-time clothes, warm layers, personal hygiene supplies, and rain gear.

What is provided by RMC-CC?

The Conservancy provides work clothing (uniform shirt, uniform pant stipend, work boots, hat, water bottles, hiking socks, work gloves, eye protection, ear protection) for every member. Additionally, the Conservancy has camping gear available for members to use during the season. This gear includes:

- Tents
- Sleeping bags
- Sleeping pads
- Camp stoves & cooking supplies
- Backpacking packs
- Water filters
- Bear Vaults
- Headlamps
- First Aid Supplies

This gear is loaned out free of charge. At the end of the season, you have the option to purchase any gear you rented.

What will my day-to-day look like?

Crews typically work a 4 x 10 schedule; this is four consecutive 10-hour workdays followed by 3 days off. Crews typically work Monday-Thursday, though this may vary crew to crew. Some crews will complete 8 day "hitches" where the crew will be backcountry (more than an hour from service) but will receive 6 days off to compensate for that. Workdays typically begin between 6:00-7:30AM and wrap-up between 4:30-6:00PM. Orientation, education, and final weeks have different schedules with fewer hours worked each day.

Is food provided? How do the crews coordinate meals?

The Conservancy provides food money for each corps member throughout their workweek. Crew Leaders are given an RMC credit card to purchase food each week, no more than \$10/person/workday. For reference, that's about \$40/person over the typical workweek, which translates to about \$240 for a 6 person crew, or \$400 for a 10 person crew. Crews are expected to coordinate food together during their workweek, including breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and snacks. The remainder of your week you will be expected to purchase your own food to supplement. Many Corps members utilize Colorado SNAP for EBT cards to save money when buying food. If you wish to utilize Colorado SNAP over the summer, you should begin the application process shortly after you are hired.

Will we encounter wildlife?

Wildlife encounters are frequent in the Rockies. Members often see elk, deer, birds, and many smaller animals. Crews may also encounter bears, coyotes, bobcats, and moose. These interactions are less common. 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.

Will we have access to cell-phone service?

Cell phone service varies significantly based on crew location. Cell service is spotty throughout the Rockies, even in developed communities. Be prepared to be without cell service for the majority of your season.

What amenities are provided at the campground?

Crews will have access to restrooms (pit toilets), potable water, and trash. Shower and laundry facilities are located nearby at work centers or other defined areas.

Who supervises the Conservation Corps?

The Conservation Corps program is led by a Corps Manager who oversees a Field Supervisor and seasonal Field Coordinators. The Field Supervisor directly manages the Field Coordinators, who oversee the program through field visits to crews during projects and facilitating training and orientation activities. Each crew has 1 or 2 Crew Leaders that provide the most direct supervision for members in the field.

What is Rocky Mountain Conservancy's drug and alcohol policy?

Drug or alcohol use, including marijuana, is prohibited at the worksite and campsite while serving with the Corps. This is non-negotiable.

How is the Conservation Corps supported during their work?

Most RMC Crews will work daily with their Park Service, Forest Service, or other professional agency partners, though sometimes the crew may be set to work on their own. Each crew will have the ability to communicate with their agency partners and a satellite communication device for emergencies and daily check-ins. The RMC Field Team (Field Supervisor and Field Coordinators) will visit crews on workdays to deliver supplies and mail, resolve conflicts, aid in projects, and provide general guidance.

What is the AmeriCorps Education Award?

As an AmeriCorps program, the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Conservation Corps provides members and leaders with a Segal 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 on this award will be provided upon program completion.

What else should I know about the RMC Conservation Corps?

This program is difficult, and therefore is not for everyone. Long days working in the hot sun, cold nights sleeping in a tent, and tensions among crew members are not all uncommon. However, participants that push through these difficulties may exit the program with newfound skills, experiences, memories, relationships, and confidence. We can not promise that this program is a fit for everyone, so be honest with yourself when assessing if this program will be a healthy, productive, and positive environment for you, as well as your fellow crew members this coming summer.

**If you have additional questions, please contact RMC's Corps Manager
Dani Woods:**

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