

CCNC DIX PARK YOUTH CORPS REPORT

June 12, 2021 – August 6, 2021



Raleigh



Together, we connect and enrich our community through EXCEPTIONAL experiences.



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Volunteer Services Program
<https://raleighnc.gov/parks-volunteer>

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This summer, a partnership was formed between Conservation Corps NC (CCNC), Conservation Legacy, and Raleigh Parks to bring two CCNC Youth Conservation Corps crews to Dorothea Dix Park. These crews were funded by the Woodson Family Foundation through the Triangle Community Foundation and donors to the Dix Park Conservancy.

CCNC Youth Conservation Corp crews follow in the footsteps of the original Civilian Conservation Corps which was part of the New Deal of the 1930s. CCNC strives to engage America's future conservationist through meaningful conservation-based projects.

The CCNC Dix Park Youth Conservation Crew was a unique opportunity to meet those same goals but in an urban park setting. The crews worked on identified projects that compliment the Dix Park master plan including: Trail building, invasive plant removal, landscape maintenance, light construction in the form of new and expanded hammock groves, a GIS based project, acting as ambassadors during a special event, and much more.

The crews also experienced educational opportunities and mentor sessions from City of Raleigh staff currently working in conservation and park related roles. Some of these opportunities were: park planning, prescribed fire, birding, urban forestry, storm water management, bio fuels, job opportunities within Parks, plant identification, invasive plant species and more.

The CCNC Dix Park Youth Conservation Crew was comprised of two team leaders and a total of twelve local teenagers (15-18 years of age). Some of the crew members knew they wanted to work outdoors, while others wanted a unique experience and to learn more about parks.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CREW DEMOGRAPHICS

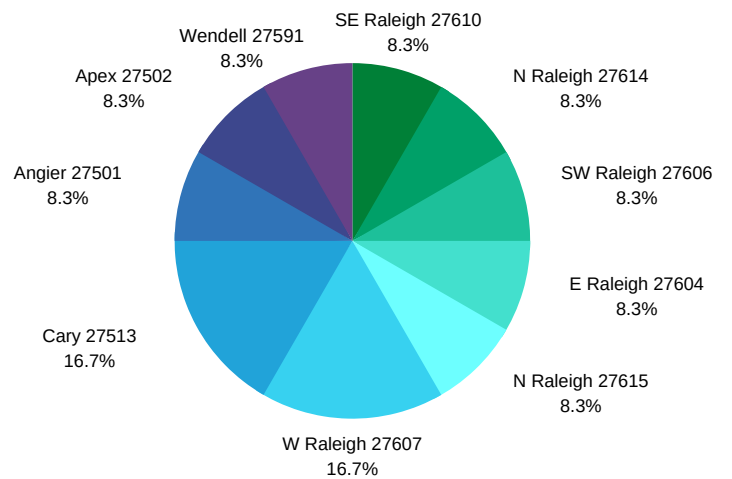
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **3,840 hours** of maintenance efforts
- **1/4 Mile** of trail cleared, graded, and naturalized
- **14,000 lbs.** of invasive plants removed/cut down
- **3,000 sq. ft.** seeded and sodded
- **120 sq. ft.** of Astroturf installed
- **120 Donor Plaques** mapped using GIS
- **93 Acres** weed wacked
- **65 Cemetery markers** raised
- **60 cubic ft.** of mulch spread
- **27 pieces** of park furniture built
- **21 hammocks** installed in 2 groves (installing posts, leveling, installing hardware)
- **8 hours** of serving as Sunflower Ambassadors
- **3 bike stations** installed
- **3 play stations** installed

TEAM DEMOGRAPHICS

- **51** applicants for crew member positions
- **2** team leaders - local, young professionals
- **12** crew members ages 15 - 18
- **7 out of 12** crew members from Raleigh
 - Each area (North, South, East, and West) of Raleigh represented

Crew Members by zipcode



EDUCATION AND PARTNERS

Educational Sessions

- Prescribed Fire
- Invasive Plants
- Plant Identification
- Birding
- Urban Forestry/Tree Climbing Techniques
- Sunflower Bio Fuel
- Water Conservation and Quality
- Park Maintenance
- Park Planning
- Public/Nonprofit Partnerships
- Trail Building
- Recreation Programming/Special Events
- History of Conservation and Public Lands
- Leave No Trace
- GIS Mapping
- Corporate Conservation Responsibility
- Mentor Sessions with PRCR Staff

Partners

- Woodson Family Foundation
- Triangle Community Foundation
- Dix Park Conservancy
- Conservation Legacy
- Conservation Corps NC
- Raleigh Parks
 - Natural Resources Staff
 - Dix Park Staff
 - Park Planning
 - Urban Forestry
 - Invasive Species Program
 - PRCR Cemetery Crew
 - Greenway Vegetation
 - Parks Construction
 - Parks Irrigation Crew
- Raleigh Water
- Stormwater
- Pepsi Co.
- NCSU Landscape Architecture

