



BACKCOUNTRY TRAILS PROGRAM: IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO CONSIDER BEFORE APPLYING

- Selected Corpsmembers not only become Backcountry Trails Program Corpsmembers, but they are also considered part of the CCC and AmeriCorps. Thus, Corpsmembers are subject to both programs' policies in addition to the Backcountry Trails Program policies.
- Thoroughly consider your ability to deal with being isolated from your friends and family for five months with having mail as your main source of contact with the outside world. Also consider that visitors may not be allowed on your crew.
- The cost of gear for the Backcountry Trails Program generally ranges between \$500 and \$1,500. However, for those who cannot or do not wish to purchase their own gear, the BCTP can provide most required gear. Issued gear must be returned and in working condition or you will be charged for it.
- The Backcountry Trails Program is an extremely structured and regimented program with many rules and policies, including sobriety, non-fraternization, and buddy system. There is very little unsupervised time.
- The Backcountry Trails Program enforces a strict "Buddy System" policy. Therefore, there is no hiking, exploring, swimming, or backpacking **alone** while in our program.
- Consider your ability live and work outdoors in extreme weather conditions and without modern conveniences or technology like plumbing, electricity, cell phones, music players, etc.
- Consider your current lifestyle, physical health, and your ability to perform extremely physically demanding labor for at least eight hours a

day for five months. We recommend applicants begin a physical fitness routine in preparation for the season.

- If you have any medical conditions and/or are taking medications, you should consult your doctor about the rigors and conditions of our program before applying.
- We may not be able to accommodate highly restrictive dietary preferences due to logistics and supply availability constraints.
- Consider your desire and ability to remain sober for five months.
- If you are taking any prescription medication, we want you continue the same practices that are keeping you healthy and stable before joining Backcountry.