

NEW OPPORTUNITY: YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

RECRUITING YOUTH AGES 14 – 18 YEARS OF AGE

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND
RECREATION COMMISSION

NORTHWEST REGION OFFICE



JOIN AND START MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

No experience? No problem! Washington State Parks NW Region Office is seeking dedicated and enthusiastic youth to help improve Washington State parks! Help shape the future by providing the state parks with your opinion on how the State Parks can engage and be more effective to other youths!

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WHAT IS THE YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM?

With the development of a NW Region Youth Outreach Program, State Parks would like to engage with youth 14 – 18 years of age. The desired outcome for state parks staff is to interact with youth regarding parks operations, programs, construction projects, and more. We'd like to know: what youth like about state parks, what youth think is lacking at state parks and if youth don't attend state park's, why?

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE AND WHAT DOES THE YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM DO?

A potential focus of the Youth Outreach Program is to serve and improve Washington State Parks through positive activities, strengthening relationships, advising policy, appreciating diversity, and forming more supportive relationships between youth, adults, and parks staff.

Ideally, State Parks would prefer to have the Youth Outreach Program members develop the program focus as they see fit.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT AND HOW WILL THE YOUTH OUTREACH MEMBERS MEET?

- Outreach members will meet during the school year. September to June each year.
- Meetings will be held during afterschool and evening hours or weekends. Anticipate 6-8 meetings a year, scheduled for 2 hours or less on Microsoft Teams.
- The hope is to include in-person meetings to supplement the virtual meetings. In-person meetings could be held throughout the NW Region.
- Assignments are given between meetings for outreach members to complete.
- The length of terms will be determined as the committee structure is developed by outreach members. Initial appointments will be for one year.

WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?

Participation in the NW Region Youth Outreach Program brings with it many potential rewards for youth who are interested, including:

- Opportunity to establish the focus and direction of the program by creating a Mission Statement and Program structure. Let's succeed together!
- A unique experience to become the next generation of parks leaders.
- Opportunity to link directly with NW Region Parks Staff to provide input for park operations, park projects, programs, and land acquisitions.
- Many volunteer opportunities during the outreach program and into the future.
- A way for youth to help guide NW Region Parks into the future.
- A way for young people to develop leadership skills, begin building a resume and begin preparing for life after high school.
- A way for young people to help shape State Parks for future generations, including their own generation.

DO I NEED PERMISSION?

Members under 18 need:

- Parent or guardian permission to take part in outdoor activities
- An adult who is available to help out during meeting times if a problem occurs; wifi connections, etc. (does not have to attend the meetings)

HOW CAN I APPLY?

Go the Washington State Parks Web Page:
<https://www.parks.wa.gov>

Once at the web page, scroll down and look for the "What's New Section." Under the "What's New Section" you'll see the Youth Outreach Program (see below).



Or use our QR code to apply!

