

**Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Northwest Region Office
220 N. Walnut Street
Burlington, WA 98233-1138**

Contact: John Keates, Assistant Region Manager; 360-899-8268

**New Opportunity: Recruiting youth ages 14 – 18 years of age to serve
on NW Region Youth Outreach Program**

What:

The development of a NW Region Youth Outreach Program. State Parks would like to specifically engage with youth 14 – 18 years of age. The desired outcome is the creation of a Northwest Region Youth Outreach Program comprised of youth who live within the boundaries of the seven NW Region management areas. This includes King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island and Juan Counties.

When: What is the time commitment:

Anticipate 6-8 meetings or other related events per year. There will also be assignments given between meetings for program members to complete. Length of terms will be determined as program structure is developed by program members. Initial appointments will be for one year.

Purpose of Program:

A potential mission statement 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 members develop the Program Mission Statement as they see fit.

Why 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 Outreach 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 the 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 the State Parks for future generations, including their own generation.

When are the meetings and how will the program meet?

The Outreach Program will meet during the 2022/23 school year. September to June each year. With the potential for a meeting during the summer at a NW Region State Park. Most meetings will be on Microsoft Teams, but we do hope to include in-person meetings to supplement the virtual meetings. In-person meetings could be held throughout the NW Region.

Meetings will be held during afterschool and evening hours or weekends.

How to apply?

Go to 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). Click on the green Youth Outreach Program picture and you’ll be directed to an interest – application form.



Deadline to apply:

August 15, 2022