

Award Steps

- 1.** Call the Volunteer Hotline at 877-225-9803 to get started.
- 2.** You, or a group leader, will meet with a park staff member to discuss a youth service assignment or group project.
- 3.** Park staff will give you or a group leader a youth service scorecard. Every time you or your group volunteers, record the time on the scorecard and obtain a park staff's initials.
- 4.** After 25 hours of volunteer service, send the completed scorecard(s) to the Salem office of OPRD to receive individual and group awards!

Groups

Any and all youth groups are encouraged to participate. Examples of groups involved are:

- Girl Scouts of America
- Boy Scouts of America
- Camp Fire USA—boys and girls
- School groups
- Church youth groups

Age is not important to be an effective volunteer. That is why the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has a program designed specifically for youth to help us out.

So get involved! Grab your friends and head to your nearest state park. A whole variety of opportunities to volunteer await you!



Two previous Youth Service Award recipients show off their talents.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer St NE Suite C
Salem OR 97301

www.oregonstateparks.org



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery



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Write to: OPRD, 725 Summer St NE Suite C,
Salem OR 97301; or call 503-986-0707
(for the hearing impaired, 1-800-735-2900).

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Go Volunteer!

Youth Helping Parks



Youth Service

Youth volunteering is a great way for kids to get involved and make a difference in their community. "Working" at one of Oregon's State Parks can teach kids about the environment and natural resources, while fostering important values like teamwork, commitment and follow-through.



Planting sagebrush at Smith Rock State Park.

Who are youth volunteers?

- Youth volunteers are between the ages of 8-18 and must have parent or guardian permission to participate.
- Volunteer projects can be completed either individually or as a group.
- Volunteers earn a Youth Service Award (YSA) by completing 25 hours of voluntary service, individually or in a group.
- Volunteers must be ready to have fun!

Students release coho salmon at Tryon Creek State Natural Area.



Typical Tasks

Although specific tasks depend on what the park needs done, examples of typical tasks are listed below.

- Participate in beach and riverside clean-ups
- Repair and refinish tables, benches and signs
- Restore streams and fish habitat
- Assist with recycling efforts
- Construct or re-grade trails

Invasive plant removal is fun when the whole group is involved!



Earn Your Youth Service Award

Awards are given to youth volunteers and youth leaders who participate in at least 25 hours of service and send a completed scorecard to Oregon State Parks headquarters.



Individual awards

consist of a pin, framed certificate and letter of appreciation.

Group awards

consist of a pin, framed certificate, and letter of appreciation for each group member, plus a banner is given to the group.

Adult group leaders

may also receive an award for their service.