

Crew in Your Community 2025 Youth Conservation League Stewardship & Service Request for Proposals



Overview: The Audubon Society of Rhode Island (Audubon) seeks proposals from groups across the state for "Crew in your Community: Youth Conservation League Land Stewardship." We have assisted landowners since 2010. Qualifying land organizations (e.g. towns, land trusts, watershed organizations, etc.) will be selected for one to four days of Youth Conservation League (YCL) labor during July and August 2025. The 2025 crew will consist of six to eight Rhode Island high school or early college students, directly supervised by an adult crew leader. Crew members are competitively selected, and they work hard for the partner organizations.

Examples of past crew projects include:

- Invasive plant removal to create river access
- Trail boardwalk construction to minimize wetland disturbance
- Invasive plant removal and trail clearing
- Fence installation and boardwalk construction

Requirements:

- Completed one-page application (see below)
- Match: Applying organization must agree to commit:
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 - At least **6 volunteer hours** working with the YCL crew during the service day (e.g. 3 volunteers each working 2 hours, etc.) to share conservation values
 - o **\$600 cost share** will be invoiced by Audubon (actual cost of crew is \$1,500/day)
 - Confidential financial assistance is available for qualifying applicants.
 Please indicate if desired.
 - o Pitch a story to your local press (e.g. a newspaper article about the project)
- Land trusts, towns, watershed groups, etc. are eligible to apply for multiple days and projects
- Sites should have a clear public resource (e.g. trail-way, vista, etc.) and/or ecological resource (e.g. rare species, natural community, etc.) with a stewardship concern. Sites

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with invasive plant-related or wildlife habitat-related stewardship concerns are *especially encouraged*.

- The YCL is equipped with basic hand tools (loppers, hammers, shears, rakes, shovels, etc.) along with safety equipment. Partner organizations are expected to contribute any additional material, power tools, or heavy equipment necessary for the proposed project.
- You must be able to accommodate an available workday: the crew works M-Th 8 am to 3:30 pm and is <u>not available on Fridays.</u>

Timeline:

- Application Deadline June 1, 2025
- Applicants will be notified by **June 13, 2025.**
- Work Day will be scheduled Mon-Thurs from July 7 to August 14, 2025. (*No Fridays*)

Submit Your Application:

Online (Preferred): <u>https://asri.org/YCL</u>

Email (use the form below): LCarberry@asri.org

(Emailed applications should have the subject: "Crew in your Community")

For questions contact Laura Carberry at Audubon (401-949-5454, x3012; LCarberry@asri.org)

RI Youth Conservation League is a project of the Audubon Society of Rhode Island. It is funded by grants from the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative Endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation.

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Crew in your Community

Youth Crew Stewardship & Service Day Application

Organization:	Contact Person:
Email:	Phone:
Site Name:	Address:
Please answer the following questions:	
General Site Description:	

Stewardship Concern:

What kind of work would the YCL be doing? What would your "match" volunteers be doing?

What is your idea for a media story?

Is your organization able to commit at least 6 volunteer hours during the service day(s)? Y / N

Note your preference for workday(s) here (Monday-Thursday, July 7 - August 14, 2025). You can up to four days. 1^{st} choice: 2^{nd} choice: 3^{rd} choice: 4^{th} choice:

Also: Attach a project area Map or link to a Google Map Attach Management Plan for the Parcel if One Exists