



# Washington Conservation Corps Corps News



November 2006  
Volume 3, Issue 1

## Important Dates:

November 10th: Veterans Day observed (state holiday)

November 23rd/24th: Thanksgiving (state holiday)

December 25th-January 1st: Winter Break

January 15th-19th: MLK week of service

January 15th: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (state holiday)

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## Surviving in the WCC

Hello, and welcome to the WCC Quarterly Newsletter. We here in the greater Tacoma urban jungle would like to congratulate you on making a commitment to a year of service. Now that the warm fuzzies are out of the way, it's time to get down to what it's going to take to survive the WCC experience.

Here are some quick pointers regarding supplies you may want to procure. Bandanas and beanies are necessary depending on the weather. Make sure that you have enough work pants so you can wear a clean, dry pair everyday, doing midweek laundry is not fun. On cold, wet days, of which there will be many, be sure to bring dry socks and warm clothes to change into for the ride home. Strongly consider choosing the fleece over the hooded sweatshirt (hoodies are cool, we know, but they are just big torso towels on rainy days, whereas water slicks off the fleece). Having a knife is a daily necessity. A water bottle is indispensable. Most importantly, get a backpack to keep all of this stuff in. The backpack is key.

We aren't the boy scouts, but always being prepared is a good motto to live by, and here are some steps you can take to make your year go as smoothly as possible. On a daily basis, make sure that you are getting adequate sleep. Remember, manual labor takes a huge toll on your body and it is going to need more time to recharge than you might expect. Also, you are going to need a ton of food to keep your energy level up during your long days of labor.

On the hygiene front, make sure you bathe, your coworkers will thank you. If you're of the male persuasion, you will want to stop shaving shortly after joining the WCC, as beards, no matter how splotchy, are a necessity to life in the Corps. Ladies, stop shaving your legs. Oh, and no haircuts. You're making minimum wage here, people, you don't have money for things like razors and trips to Supercuts. Speaking of money, you'll want to work out a budget early on in the year and stick to it. A good budgeting tip is this: budget like you have no money, because you won't.



Article written by the Tacoma Crew (05/06): Michael Mseitif, Jesse Smith, Shane Paulson, Ryan Gore, Sara Hanson, Steve Whetherhult, & Melody Abel (sup)

All AmeriCorps members are eligible for food stamps and you need to jump on that immediately. While you may be broke as a joke (or, depending on the joke, a good deal broker) \$150 dollars a month in food money will enable you to continue working without fear of starvation.

Regardless of how hairy and frugal you may be, you aren't going to get the most out of your year without the proper attitude. You must remember that you will be working (and possibly living) in close proximity with anywhere from 5 to 150 people at any given time. Patience is a virtue.

This organization has endless potential but you must remember a few things to get the best experience:

1. You get out what you put in. If you want to do something in particular, (i.e. spikes, training, emergency response) push for it.
2. Never take anything for granted, things that are supposedly set in stone can change in a minute, and other times all you can do is hurry up and wait.
3. No matter how bad the current task, it's only temporary, you'll soon be doing something different. The beauty of this program is its variety.

We all hope that what we have said you will take into consideration throughout the year. We know from experience and wish you the best of luck! Last of all, it will be an awesome year!

# A letter to the members of Crew 2706

(Olympia Spike/Dewees)

By Laila Murfin

As the leaves show their brilliance in preparation for winter, it is both fitting and comforting that I find myself brought full circle in this first year with the WCC. I am beginning to understand that fall is always a time of re-awakening, a realization of who I am, or who I have forgotten within myself. Walking the trails of Mt. Rainier this week, shovel in hand, cleaning drainages for a second fall season, I breathe in newly crisp air, the moist rain, the scent of earth and mushrooms offering their peace before the cool stillness of winter.

And here in autumn we, as the land surrounding us, find ourselves at a crossroads between life and death, beginnings and endings. Our time together draws exponentially shorter. The realm of possibility grows ever wider. The feelings of anticipation I had at this time last year have lessened. I have grown accustomed to the unknown, willing to change directions at a moment's notice. At times this has been frustrating, but the ability to learn and practice detachment is invaluable.

As the weather changes, the earth offers us fungus in a symphony of color: ochre, goldenrod, amethyst... It is as though the land itself strives to mirror the changes in sky and hills, the momentary wisdom of autumn. We too, each one of us, is mirroring this change. It is a change that is palpable as we prepare to

part ways. Walking trail upon trail, through rain and sun, high alpine meadows and lowland marshes, I witness this splash of color in each of us; as though we are no longer ashamed to be fully ourselves.

That is the essence of this year: We have watched each other grow and change, for better and worse. We have loved and hated and, most importantly, learned to express and shift those feelings in ways leading back to a coherent cellular structure, time and again.

Our work speaks for itself. Our ability to work together as a single, living, breathing entity is too, apparent. Without such cohesion, the quality and quantity of our work would have been far less dignified. Of this I will simply say: we learned to communicate in such a manner that words are now hardly necessary. This is an accomplishment and a feat to be proud of. Not every crew has a rapport that includes an ability to be honest and raw, off-the-wall ridiculous and serious, compromising and self-sufficient. Not every group of people, arbitrarily thrown together, has the ability (however reluctant) to allow difference to create a strengthening bond, and to take positive and negative for what they are, all the while creating change.

And so, we part ways, for new adventures, new longings, and the richness of new human experience. It's hard to deny that as we go, the colors shine a little bit brighter.



Murfin

## From a Corps Member's Journal

*The last night. We're in T-woods which is where the year began and the crew has changed. Gretchen is gone, so is Nathan. We grew a Matt and Julie has retired as a supervisor. I get the room all to myself. This room has become very cozy and regular, even though we've stayed at other cabins, here the layout is always the same. I made burritos for dinner and everyone enjoyed my last meal for them. Joey from Ted's crew joined us, and Laila came over. We had a really nice talk. Chris came by as well. I'm relieved but sad at the same time. We've been working at the nursery and today I stayed late to make sure all the plants were well watered. I really took my time enjoying every moment of working under the sun, surrounded by trees, using my body. Watching the water shower down giving life to everything it touches. I will never have a job or experience like this again. I really hate endings; I want them to be more than what they are. I want a big ceremony with touching speeches and teary-eyed moments, but really we just cleaned up the kitchen, brushed our teeth, and said "good night" as if it were just another day. And, in reality, it is. Tomorrow will never come. Because it is always today that we live in.*

*So many years from now, in the todays yet to come, I will remember my time spent with Steven, Sean, Matt, Julie, and Nate with the WCC and ponder how fast it all moves away. I can never re-create the emotions and sensations that I've encountered. Overall, I am so happy I got to live and work in another realm; The Spike. I will never [again] go to work from a cabin, eat food my job paid for, or enjoy every meal with co-workers that become friends or enemies depending on the day. To really know and appreciate home. To be missed. I've felt so disconnected with the other worlds and yet almost reborn to new ideas and abilities. All in all, never to be forgotten.*

-Leah Kellogg, WCC Corpsmember (Olympia Spike Crew)



Kellogg

## Where Are They Now?

As another service year ends and 125 Corps Members leave, the WCC staff wishes them well, with hopes that former Corps Members will keep in touch. Not surprisingly, when we hear from our AmeriCorps Alums, they are just as busy and active as they were while in the WCC. Former Corps Member, Blythe Mackey, was in the midst of taking night classes for Wetlands Science at the UW, closing on a condo, and working a crazy schedule, but took the time to answer a few questions (thanks Blythe). Here's what she said:

*WCC: What did you do in the WCC?*

B: I worked for the Washington State Department of Ecology, Coastal Monitoring and Analysis Program, on the Southwest Washington Coastal Erosion Study. Specifically, we collected beach morphology data using GPS survey equipment to understand the erosion and accretion on the coast. We also collected sediment samples which we analyzed for grain size in the sediment lab.

*W: When were you in the WCC?*

B: September 2004-September 2005.

*W: What are you doing now?*

B: I work as a Biologist for Ecology and Environment, Inc., an environmental consulting firm in Seattle. I conduct biological survey such as habitat assessments and wetland delineations. I also coordinate between government agencies and clients regarding permitting and I write biological sections for Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements. My company has offices and projects across the U.S. so I have the opportunity to travel frequently.

*W: Did your experience in the WCC help you get your current position?*

B: Yes. In the environmental field, field work is always great experience. It shows you can work on a team, on different projects, in a variety of weather conditions, and with a flexible schedule.

*W: Are you still volunteering at People for Puget Sound*

B: No, I'm not currently volunteering for them because my work schedule requires so much travel. People for Puget Sound is a great organization that does important environmental restoration, stewardship, policy, and education work throughout the Puget Sound in Olympia, Seattle, and Mt. Vernon.

*W: Would you recommend the WCC to other people interested in the environmental field?*

B: Absolutely. The WCC is a wonderful program and opportunity. While at the WCC, I gained invaluable field experience. I also now have working knowledge of GPS survey techniques and equipment, as well as GIS. This job gave me applicable skills after I left to start a career in environmental consulting.



Mackey

## Changing Faces

The following are just a few of the changing faces in the WCC over the past year. Whether it's the cold weather, a cost-savings measure (as alluded to in the article on page 1) or a crew challenge, there were several nearly unrecognizable faces by year's end. Below are some before and after pictures.



Steve Whetherhult:



Chad Althaus



Kenneth Bailey



Isaiah Cunningham



Chris Humann



Ted Dewees (sup)



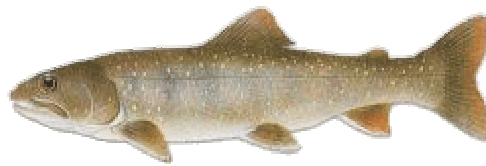
## Bull Trout Surveys

By the WCC Hood Canal Crew: Dennis Ary, Kevin Robbins, Rob Shelton, & Josh Tonn

Last winter, the Hood Canal Crew was involved in a search for evidence of *salvelinus confluentus*, otherwise known as bull trout and their spawning beds, also referred to as redds. Adult bull trout are approximately 18 – 24 inches in length, they are brown with bright yellow, purple and blue spots, and have a white trailing edge on their fins. Bull trout are carnivorous, which is an area where they differ from most other fish.

Redds are the spawning beds of bull trout. Adult bull trout create them during the spawning season. The adult bull trout will fan its tail up and down vigorously to create a depression in the streambeds. The rocks that they fan up collect in piles at the base of the redds. After laying and fertilizing the eggs, the bull trout will fan these piles of rocks over the top of the eggs, thus hiding them from predators.

Our searches, also known as surveys, were conducted in the Skokomish River Valley. To search for bull trout, we would walk along designated river banks and streams, paying particularly close attention to areas that have the right geographical features such as calm water with rocks between ¼ and 3 inches. These smaller rocks make excellent habitat for redds because the adult bull trout are able to move it easily. Our eyes have to pay close attention to detail because, unless you know what you are looking for, you might be stepping into a redd or even a bull trout! We



always travel upstream so that we can try to sneak up on spawning fish. The theory being that bull trout going upstream to spawn will hopefully not pay any attention to what's behind them, and it works. When someone is snorkeling, there is another person on the bank to get an over head view of the situation and to write down details from the snorkeler.

If a bull trout or redd is spotted, we document the date, time, redd size, and location on a flag and tie it to a tree on the nearest bank. We also complete spawner survey forms, which include how many fish we saw, the size of the fish, the side of the water we were on, temperature, and weather. We also document everything that we put on the flag. This information is then entered into a computer.

We do have some special equipment that greatly aids in these surveys. To protect us from the cold while snorkeling, we wear woolies under our dry suits. We can see through the nasty glare of the water with polarized sunglasses. We're always conscientious of safety and have our hard hats, felt boots and 2-way radios. For emergencies, we have the US Forest Service radio too.

At the end of the spawning season, we had hiked and snorkeled some 50 miles of streams and rivers, sometimes in the harshest of conditions, but always with a smile on our face and great cheer in our hearts.



Hood Canal Crew Member, Kevin Robbins, snorkels for bull trout

## The Exchange

WCC Members have the chance to experience some amazing opportunities. Although Corps Members are placed on a crew or as an Individual Placement in a given location, this does not limit their experience. There will be times during the year when members will want to explore other areas of the WCC. The Hood Canal snorkel surveys, spike opportunities at Mount Rainier and Lake Chelan, and trail work in the Olympic National Park are just a few examples. If you are interested in an exchange, it is a good idea to talk to other members on crews that you might be interested in. Whether at the upcoming WCC training sessions or online at the WCC Message Board, Corps Members are able to arrange their own crew exchanges.

Exchanges are important and highly recommended for a variety of reasons:

1. You might want a break from your crew, regardless of how well you all get along. One year is a long time to spend day in and day out with 5 other people.
2. Excellent networking opportunities. You will get to know other Corps Members with common interests and you can meet other sponsors and crew supervisors.
3. Explore some wonderful areas in Washington State.

Exchanges are not limited to crews. Individual Placements are located throughout the state, working within non-profits and public agencies. These are also great opportunities, although these will be less of an exchange and more of a "shadow". This is your year, so take advantage!

*\* Please receive approval from your crew supervisor or coordinator.*

## WCC Message Board now online!

Follow the link from the Current Updates page at [www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc)

Post crew exchange opportunities, find tips and tricks, and visit the WCC Swap Meet.

Registration is fast, free, and easy, so visit the WCC Message Board today!

# Floods: past and present

*By Jessica Asplund, Renton Crew Member*

Flood waters pose a threat to humans and other animals alike. Although many of the recent weather reports were calling for a dry, El Nino winter, we are now experiencing flooding like we have not seen for quite some time. The National Weather Service is reporting major flooding along the Rivers of the Puget Sound region and the flood warnings just keep on coming. There is little that can be done to prevent the already full rivers around Washington from spilling over their banks and threatening the habitat surrounding them.

Logging in the area left a lasting impact by way of removal of vital sources of flood control along rivers. Trees along the banks could provide storage for the influx of waters; the gradual release of water protects the area from future flooding, erosion, and degradation. Erosion of the banks gives way to further erosion, and let's face it a vicious cycle.

WCC members work throughout the year to try and prevent damage to streambeds. The planting of native species allows for the intake of water and slow release through evapotranspiration. Crews also install erosion

control blankets in an attempt to establish more stable banks.

Many WCC crews were sent out for the latest floods in an emergency response, and this required some to work over 19 hours in one day. There were two Snohomish crews (Supervisors Jordan Ottow and Mark Hopf) and the Snohomish County Individual Placement (Jacquie Gauthier) that prepped and stacked sandbags with the Stanwood Fire Department, the City of Stanwood, and 50 community volunteers along the Stillaguamish River. Crews from NSEA and Skagit (Supervisors Justin Lamb and Rob Crawford) worked on the Skagit River. Three crews from King County (Supervisors Peter Nevin, Brad Kwasnowski, and Justin Zarzeczny) traveled north to join Supervisor Nick Saling's crew from the City of Bellingham near the mouth of the Skagit River after putting in a full day's work. The Chelan County crew (Supervisor Bob Milner) performed flood response in Chelan County.

There are a few flood tips from FEMA in the left column. More details are available at: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

## After a Flood

- Listen to health reports to ensure that your water is safe to drink
- Stay out of flood waters if possible; they could be contaminated or electrically charged. Stay away from power lines and report any that are down.
- Do not enter moving water (if you cannot see through it then you do not know what is in it!)
- Stay clear of weakened roadways after flood waters have retreated
- Replace/repair any damaged household items; wash everything that got wet to prevent contamination and disease. There may have been some nasty stuff out there.



*Left: Corpsmembers help with sandbagging.*

*Lower Left: South Prairie Creek runs over its banks and knocks down trees in the area.*

*Photo courtesy of [seattlepi.com](http://seattlepi.com)*

*Lower Right: Adult salmon swimming out of a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife holding pond due to high waters.*

*Photo courtesy of [seattlepi.com](http://seattlepi.com)*



## Wildland Firefighting Response

The Washington Conservation Corps (Dept. of Ecology) sent 4 crewmembers from the Everett and Bellingham area to battle wildfires as part of a 20 person North Cascades Interagency Initial Attack crew. About 35 WCC crewmembers received red cards through a 40 hour wildland firefighter certification class and physical test in March through the Poulsbo Fire Department Wildland Team and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. All wildland firefighters must complete a certified course before deploying to a fire.

The crew departed for the Hood River Complex of fires in the Mt. Hood National Forest in Eastern Oregon where they spent their entire deployment. The complex was a series of fires started by lightning. The objective, which has been met to this point, was to keep the individual fires from turning into a dangerous single fire. The crew engaged in some initial attack activity, lots of "mop up" and gridding.

One of the squad bosses on the crew, former WCC crew supervisor Michael Koenen told me the WCC members "were motivated, eager to learn, and hardworking...they overall did an outstanding job". Fire crews are also rated on their performance by their crew boss (who has years of experience and oversees the entire 20 person crew) after the fire. He wrote that "the crew did an excellent job with positive attitudes. Their willingness to work hard and learn was greatly appreciated. They represented the WCC program well".



*John Velazquez, Michael Morris, Will Simpson, and Mark Hopf while on emergency fire response.*

News on any large fire can be found on the National Interagency Fire Center web site at [www.nifc.gov/fireinfo/nfn.html](http://www.nifc.gov/fireinfo/nfn.html).

Individuals are selected for these deployments based on their overall performance with their respective crews, their enthusiasm and willingness to work long, hard hours for 14 straight days and recommendation from their crew supervisors. The WCC would like to thank Josh Velazquez (who continued fighting fire at the Flick Creek fire after returning from Mount Hood), Mark Hopf, Michael Morris and Will Simpson for representing The WCC, Ecology, and AmeriCorps with their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to service.

## Sponsor Recognition

*Article written by Nick Mott, WCC Project Coordinator*

The Washington Conservation Corps has instituted a new award to honor partnering sponsors who go above and beyond expectations; project sponsors who best exemplify and support the spirit of the WCC. The WCC is pleased to announce the City of Redmond as the first recipient of the Sponsor Recognition Award. The City of Redmond, specifically Roger Dane, has exceeded expectations in enriching and enhancing Corps Members' experience. On most mornings, the crew is presented with articles on current environmental issues, and attend discussions led by City representatives. City of Redmond Corps Members are afforded opportunities to work in the City offices, gaining experience with GPS and other skill sets, or allowed the chance for additional field surveys and research projects based on interest.



*Crew members with Sponsor Recognition Award winner, Roger Dane (center).*

The City of Redmond supports enhancement activities by sending crews away for projects and unique spike opportunities that will add to the member's experiences and résumés. The City of Redmond was quick to respond to the request for help in New Orleans in the clean-up of Katrina and other emergency response activities when needed. Thanks for helping WCC make the most of our Corps Members' experiences and supporting the goals and ideals of the Washington Conservation Corps. Congratulations!

# Ecology's Shorelands Program recognizes efforts in the Gulf

The WCC was recognized at an awards ceremony held in November by the Department of Ecology Shorelands and Environmental Assistance (SEA) Program. The WCC was selected for the SEA Team Performance Award. Recipients included the Staff and Crew Supervisors who took a lead role in the amazing effort that resulted in over 35,000 hours of service to the states damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These efforts benefited over 5,000 hurricane victims throughout Texas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The WCC demonstrated amazing collaboration, providing leadership and support to groups of 20 Corps Members who were cycled through on 30 day deployments over a period of 7 months.

Staff worked diligently to find the necessary tools, vehicles, hotels, camps, health providers, food services, and many other needs for the crews. At times, the crews were working in three states at once. Crew supervisors that responded were able to set up a variety of services on a cruise ship that housed over a thousand refugees; helping displaced residents to find medical supplies, personal needs, providing care for their children, and

even finding them jobs and clothing. Other supervisors were able to work with federal agencies to coordinate efforts, train volunteers, and provide scoping work and budgets for repair tasks. The WCC was able to provide this necessary service, while still meeting the needs of its natural resource partners. Roland McGill, WCC Project Coordinator, received the Program Achievement Award for his leadership throughout the response efforts. Recipients of the team award include:

<i>Melody Abel</i>	<i>Dave Coffey</i>	<i>Rob Crawford</i>
<i>Ted Dewees</i>	<i>Bridget Mason</i>	<i>Roland McGill</i>
<i>Bob Milner</i>	<i>Nick Mott</i>	<i>Jason Ouellette</i>
<i>Nick Saling</i>	<i>Yolanda Singleton</i>	<i>Ryan Swindler</i>
<i>Karen VanLeeuwen</i>	<i>Troy Warnick</i>	<i>Shawn Zaniewski</i>

The WCC would like to give a special thanks to Ecology's fiscal staff; assisting us with all of our special needs and requests including support related to payroll issues, purchasing, motor pool, and payables/receivables.

Thank you to the following WCC Members for their hurricane response efforts:

<i>Amidon, Ben</i>	<i>Dore, Emily</i>	<i>Hernandez, Kimberly</i>	<i>Melo, Brittany</i>	<i>Reznicek, Lisa</i>	<i>Sullivan, David</i>
<i>Arnold, Sue</i>	<i>Ellis, Michael</i>	<i>Hildrum, Michael</i>	<i>Morgan, Tara</i>	<i>Robbins, Kevin</i>	<i>Tipton, Christopher</i>
<i>Arnold, Wade</i>	<i>Eversole, Nathan</i>	<i>Hoover, Ronald</i>	<i>Morris, Michael</i>	<i>Sand, William</i>	<i>Trolli, Kevin</i>
<i>Bailey, Kenneth</i>	<i>Gaskell, Sean</i>	<i>Hopf, Mark</i>	<i>Mount, Amber</i>	<i>Scarcelli, John</i>	<i>Valdez, Benjamin</i>
<i>Barber, Dana</i>	<i>Gauthier, Jacqueline</i>	<i>Humann, Chris</i>	<i>Mseitif, Michael</i>	<i>Schneider, Kelly</i>	<i>Valazquez, Joshua</i>
<i>Betz, Benjamin</i>	<i>Goodwin, Dalton</i>	<i>Hutchinson, Evan</i>	<i>Murfin, Laila</i>	<i>Shaddox, Jacob</i>	<i>Van Selus, Steven</i>
<i>Bloom, Julie</i>	<i>Gore, Ryan</i>	<i>Irby, Courtney</i>	<i>O Day, Thomas</i>	<i>Shimaneck, Amy</i>	<i>Vincent, Seth</i>
<i>Brown, Stephanie</i>	<i>Gosset, Jen</i>	<i>Kellogg, Leah</i>	<i>Patton, Chris</i>	<i>Shively, Rachel</i>	<i>Whetherhult, Stephen</i>
<i>Clark, Sarah</i>	<i>Guzman, Rodolfo</i>	<i>Lamb, Justin</i>	<i>Paulson, Shane</i>	<i>Simpson, William</i>	<i>Weiner, Basil</i>
<i>Cunningham, Isaiah</i>	<i>Halbert, Erin</i>	<i>Lindberg, Steven</i>	<i>Phelan, Joseph</i>	<i>Smith, Amber</i>	<i>Williams, Justin</i>
<i>Deshmane, Natasha</i>	<i>Hansa Ogren, Ana</i>	<i>Lott, Vanessa</i>	<i>Phinney-Johnson, David</i>	<i>Smith, Robert Jason</i>	<i>Wisou-Rains, Bryan</i>
<i>Dieser, Peter</i>	<i>Hanson, Sara</i>	<i>McArtor, David</i>	<i>Potts, Jamy</i>	<i>Sterba, Gretchen</i>	<i>Woofenden, Rose</i>
<i>Dore, Amie</i>	<i>Herbert, James</i>	<i>Megal, Krista</i>		<i>Stone, Apollo</i>	



Photos courtesy of wikipedia.org

Kingdom: Plantae  
 Division: Magnoliophyta  
 Class: Magnoliopsida  
 Order: Solanales  
 Family: Solanaceae  
 Genus: Solanum  
 Species: *S. dulcamara*

## Plant of the Quarter: *Solanum dulcamara*

WCC crews will happen upon this pesky plant while conducting maintenance around the area. *S. dulcamara*, or bittersweet nightshade, commonly climbs up other plants or trees along stream beds and has the ability to choke the life out of them. It is native to Europe and Asia, but invasive and problematic in North America. Bittersweet nightshade can grow up to heights of four meters if there is substantial support for growth. The fruit is poisonous to humans while edible to birds, who are very adept at dispersing the seeds. Manual control can be effective if all of the parts of the plant are removed. Pieces of the plant on top of the soil can sprout roots and the smallest piece of root can re-sprout if left in the ground.

Bittersweet nightshade is a perennial and it has slender vines with simple basally lobed leaves, the flowers are purple with yellow stamens, and the berries are green and when they ripen they turn bright red and shiny.



# WCC: Year in Review

Below is a summary of WCC activities for the 2005-2006 service year:

Member Community Service (hrs): . . . 4,284	Hours of Environmental Education: . . . . . 9,212
Campsites Constructed/Maintained: . . . 612	Hours of Training: . . . . . 13,425
Volunteers Recruited/Managed: . . . . 5,610	Number of Students: . . . . . 23,537
Fencing Constructed (miles): . . . . . 6.03	Total Acres Treated: . . . . . 834
Hours of Emergency Response: . . . . 38,208	Native Plants Planted: . . . . . 410,811
Trail Constructed/ Maintained (miles): . . . . . 260.7	

## Community Service Projects this year included:

- Community center renovation
- Home Winterization
- Playgrounds (schools/shelter)
- Habitat for Humanity (painting, drywall)
- Park Rehabilitation
- Catholic Community Services
- Interpretive Trail
- Red Cross Blood Drive
- Katrina Toy Drive
- Olympia Community Garden
- GRuB Greenhouse
- ADA accessible trail for High School sporting events
- Food Drive
- Beach Cleanup



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## About Our Organization

*The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1983 as a job training program for young adults between the ages of 18-25. The WCC is a program offered through the Washington State Department of Ecology and continues the legacy left by the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s.*

*The program provides work experience and skills for projects that support conservation, rehabilitation, and enhancement of Washington's natural, historic, environmental and recreational resources. Today the WCC has nearly 150 members working on various projects in every part of the state. WCC partners include Federal, State, Local, and Tribal organizations.*

*If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact Ecology's SEA program at (360) 407-6096, or TTY (for the speech or hearing impaired) 711 or 800-833-6388.*