

Background: What is ArrowCorps about?

ArrowCorps is a large scale conservation project, patterned after the ArrowCorps⁵ project which was conducted by the Order of the Arrow in 2008. The event is a weeklong service project event where Arrowmen, Scouts, and Scouters form crews which then provide volunteer service work on public lands. Access and permission for the service work is provided through a partnering government agency.

Is this the first ArrowCorps Cascade Pacific Council has done?

No. A group of Arrowmen from our lodge, having participated in the ArrowCorps⁵ project in the Shasta Trinity National Forest, brought the idea back to the Cascade Pacific Council. Wauna La-mon'tay Lodge opted to conduct the first event in the Mount Hood National Forest in 2011. Additional events have been done in 2014, '16, '19, '21, and most recently 2023. The 2025 event was planned in accordance with the Lodge Officer's intent for the Lodge to offer the opportunity on years opposite NOAC.

Who are the ArrowCorps partners for ArrowCorps 7?

Though we have worked in multiple forests and with different agencies, for 2025 we are limiting our partnership to the Detroit Ranger District in the Willamette National Forest (a.k.a. Mount Jefferson Wilderness). They have volunteer service protocols that we must comply with in addition to our Council's and the National BSA organization's standards. We have found that a single location for the event is easiest to manage and would allow us to be flexible enough that as circumstances change, the event could adapt.

Who can participate?

As in our previous events, ArrowCorps 7 is open to all Arrowmen and Scouts, of all genders, who are at least 14 years of age, and at least First Class Rank (or equivalent). Adult Scouters are also needed and are welcome. All participants should be aware of Part D of the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record [AHMR]. We recommend that you review these physical requirements. Although this event is a high adventure level experience, we do have an ability to align work projects according to crew experience and abilities.

Do I need a current Annual Health and Medical Record [AMHR]?

Yes, you do. ArrowCorps 7 is considered a weeklong resident camp outing, therefore it is similar to attending a summer camp. You will need to bring a copy of your current AMHR (parts A, B, and C), and youth will need to present any prescription and OTC medications to our medic at the time you check in. As with summer camp, the

information is kept confidential with our medic, and will be made available to crew leaders in a manner appropriate to the project location where you are assigned.

What kind of work will we be doing?

We will be doing trail work for the Detroit Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest. The trails will be 100% scouted ahead of time so that we know where crews will be and what type of work will need to be done. Our work areas are developed through conversations with the Ranger District's Wilderness Trails Manager. Our projects typically will include the Ranger District priorities where they have insufficient trail crews to tackle. Typical trail work has been brushing trail out to 6' wide (trail tread + 3' to either side), removing saplings, brush and small trees that have encroached and established themselves in the pathway. Many of the areas that we will be working are located in the historic B & B Complex fires zones from 2003 where over 90,000 acres of wilderness were burned. Some trails are so densely encroached, the trail is at risk of disappearing. In some cases, we are re-establishing trail that has completely overgrown. Since we are in designated wilderness areas, we are limited to 8 – 10 person crews. The trail heads are usually located in different watersheds, although some crews could be accessing and working the same trail system from the same trail head, a large separation will be maintained between the crews.

Trail brushing is hard work, will there be something for my abilities?

We are confident that we can align a meaningful aspect of the project with your interest and abilities, BUT – we need to know that from you: A questionnaire will be sent out to find out all sorts of information. In that questionnaire you can tell us about any skills, experience you have, and what you are interested in doing. If we missed something that you feel is important for us to know, please reach out to us and share that information.

It's just volunteer service work – right?

No, it's more than just volunteer service work. Although cheerful service is the focus of the event, participants have enjoyed fellowship, have learned new skills, refined and improved skills that they have, and even found or affirmed a career path. The crew leaders have been trained, and a program utilizing the natural setting of the outdoor classroom has been developed – for example learning about lighting safety is much more relevant when standing near an exposed area along a ridge. We pride ourselves on quality of workmanship over quantity – which is to say we would rather produce ¼ mile of high quality trail, than to produce ½ mile (or more) of poor quality trail.

Where do we stay?

ArrowCorps 7 will utilize a variety of accommodations depending on the work location and nature of projects. Our base camp is Camp Pioneer. The crews working in the wilderness will have the following options:

- Go out on trail to work each day, then return to camp each evening
- Go out on trail to work, camp overnight for 2 non-consecutive nights on the trail, with the remaining nights being spent in Camp Pioneer. This would mean Monday night and Wednesday night would be camped out on trail following the days work. Tuesday night and Thursday night would be in camp returning to camp at the end of your work day. This is a balance of time and distance for project areas that are 2 to 4 miles from the trailhead
- Trek Trail Crew – Crews will assemble and be equipped and provisioned for 3 nights on trail. These project areas are typically at least 5 miles into the wilderness and area, where a large amount of time is required for transit to project area.

What do I need to bring?

We will provide you with a packing list ahead of the event. On that list are the typical resident camp type of items that you are accustomed to having – sleeping bag & pad, toiletries, daypack w/water bottle, personal first aid kit, sunscreen, insect repellent, light coat, rain shell etc. **Important:** To work in the forest you must have long pants and sturdy closed toed shoes.

If you are planning on being in an overnight on the trail crew, you will need to bring personal camping gear (hammock or tent) that you are accustomed to. If you have a friend in the same crew, this can be a shared burden.

Through the questionnaire that we will send, we are planning to have crews identified and aligned with projects and work areas before the event so that we can provide any unique packing information before you arrive at the event. As a participant, you will receive necessary personal protective equipment [PPE] for working in the forest as required by the USFS.

What additional personal protective equipment [PPE] will I receive?

We have planned to provide to each participant with 2 long sleeve shirts, head protection in the form of a hardhat/bump cap, bandana for sun protection, hearing protection (if required) and work gloves. Additional PPE may be provided depending upon the project/work site conditions. At this time, an opportunity for a saw crew is TBD. For all other projects, USFS sawyers may have bucked any logs requiring cutting prior to our crew arrival. Additionally, part of our work will be identifying (logging by GPS data) areas where sawyers are needed to come in to clear trail.

What is the Fun Day about this time?

Fun – of course! While we have fun providing service, we also can't lose sight of relaxing and enjoying the food, friends and fellowship. We will have a quick breakfast, help put the remaining parts of camp to bed for the winter (we are the last event held on the property). We will transit to Mt. Hood Ski Bowl. We will conclude ArrowCorps 7 and checkout/depart from the venue following a day of food and fun on the attractions. We will have a tented space to provide security for personal gear, a hearty catered meal, and Adventure Passes to the venue.

The event conclusion and check-out will occur from this location.

What if I am not from Oregon?

We welcome you to our event! Transportation to and from the event is your responsibility, and we will provide location information and details for travel by ground. If you are traveling by air, our commitment is to get you from Portland International Airport [PDX] to our event and returned to PDX in time for your flight. We are planning for the possibility of host families to bridge the gap for flights should your travel plans be offset by a day from the event start and conclusion dates. As part of the questionnaire, we will ask about any transportation arrangements that need to be made.