

YCC offers youth chance to work in conservation

Morrow County young people have a chance to do "their thing" this summer and get paid for it-by joining the Youth Conservation Corps.

The Youth Conservation Corps is a program designed to provide summer employment for young people interested in natural environment. Projects are developed around outdoor work programs on public lands including, but not limited to, such diverse areas as fish hatcheries, forests, parks and refuges.

Objectives are: (1) Provide meaningful work in the field of conservation; (2) Facilitate work-learning experiences; (3) Develop a social awareness among the youth of varied economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. These objectives are accomplished during the normal 40-hour work week, as well as off-duty hours.

Participants at the non-residential camps will work five days per week on the job site and will live at home. Pay at these non-residential camps will be \$1.97 per hour less Social Security and other taxes. No meals or lodging will be furnished. Location of these work sites has not been determined but will probably be at several state parks.

Work programs usually center around jobs such as construction and maintenance of trails, recreational facilities, and fences; helping in tree nursery operations; participating in range, timber stand, wildlife and stream improvements; etc. Environmental education aspects of the program are developed and presented as part of the work effort when and as the opportunity presents itself.

The YCC employs both boys and girls (all Oregon camps for 1974 will be coed) who are at least 15 and not yet 19 years of age. Youth of all social, economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds are eligible. However, one must be a resident of the state; only Oregon youths will qualify for camps in Oregon. The recruiting period for 1974 is from March 1 to March 31, and will be conducted state-wide under the auspices of the Governor's Commission on Youth. Applications, which can be obtained from school counselors or state employment offices, should be completed and mailed directly to the Governor's Commission on Youth, 775 Court Street, Salem, Oregon 97310.

Participants for the 1974 YCC program will be selected

in random drawings by the commission in cooperation with the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior, whose decision will be final. Efforts will be made to assign youths to a camp nearest their home, where practical. The agency administering each specific camp will contact the applicant selected for that camp by phone or mail before May 3 to inform him or her of the program for which he has been selected, obtain a confirmation for reporting to work, and discuss other appropriate matters with the enrollee and parents or guardians.

Those interested in a chance to participate in this summer's YCC, may fill out the application, obtain the necessary signatures and mail it in before the March 31 deadline.

Traffic offenders can relax a bit

Oregon drivers who have had three or more major traffic convictions in the last five years and who may have been worried that they would soon be classified as habitual traffic offenders under a 1973 law may breathe a little easier.

Chester W. Ott, administrator of the Motor Vehicles Division, said Thursday that an attorney general's opinion released this week means that the division will consider only the last major conviction prior to Oct. 5, 1973, the effective date of the law.

Ott said that means approximately 5,700 drivers the division had identified as possible habitual offenders because they had three or more major traffic convictions on their records will not be in immediate danger of a 10 year license revocation unless they have been convicted of another major offense since Oct. 5 last year.

Major traffic offenses include manslaughter or criminally negligent homicide with a motor vehicle, driving under the influence of liquor or drugs, driving while suspended or revoked, reckless driving, and hit and run in an accident involving death or injury.

Ott said he had requested the attorney general's opinion because of a serious problem the division would have had in complying with the law if all prior major traffic offenses had been counted in implementing the new law.

"The problem hinged on a section of the law requiring the division to immediately

notify a driver after he receives a second major traffic conviction and to offer an opportunity for a meeting to discuss his license status under the habitual offender act," Ott said.

"We could not have complied with the notice or meeting requirement of the law had all prior major offenses been counted on the effective date of the law," he said.

The law also provides that drivers with 20 or more moving convictions, including major offenses, within the last five years may be defined as habitual offenders.

In these cases, the law does not require the division to notify the driver he is close to being prosecuted as a habitual offender, nor does it have to offer a meeting with a DMV representative.

For that reason, the opinion said the division should count all moving convictions within the preceding five years.

Ott said he does not yet know how many Oregon drivers have records with 20 or more moving convictions within the last five years.

70-mile winds a 'breeze'

Thursday night winds that attained a velocity of up to 70 miles per hour caused little damage in Morrow County.

Three small trees were uprooted at the courthouse but no other damage has been reported.

Columbia Basin Electric reported no outages during the gale winds and received only phone call from a concerned citizen regarding a tree leaning against a power pole.

The Morrow County Road Department said it had no knowledge of any damage to roadways caused by falling trees in the area.


If any damage was caused in the area, it was not reported. Residents feel the damage was "too minute" to report, and high winds are expected at this time of year.

Entering its fourth summer, the YCC program has been successful in fulfilling the aforementioned objectives. As a coed program, the enrollees are supervised by a professional coed staff. Enrollees have participated in residential (live and work at the job site) and non-residential (live at home when not working) camps. The number of enrollees employed per camp ranges from 5 to 50, with most averaging 24. Total national enrollment was approximately 3,500 per summer for the first three years; some 7,000 will be employed this coming summer, and the number is expected to expand significantly in the future.

During the summer of 1974, seven residential and several non-residential camps will be operated in Oregon, with an estimated enrollment of 255 youths. The residential camps will be on the Ocoee, Mt. Hood and Umatilla National Forests, Crater Lake National Park, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and a BLM seed orchard near Colton.

All residential camps will operate on a seven-days-per-week basis for a period of eight consecutive weeks from approximately mid-June to mid-August. Lodging (tents, dormitories or cabins), meals and laundry facilities are provided at these sites. Enrollees are expected to provide personal clothing adequate for the camp climate. Enrollees at these residential camps will be paid \$38.50 per week less Social Security taxes. Meals and lodging are furnished free.

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American Association of University Women
Oregon State Division

Fashioned after other concepts of the "open university" this external degree program has been proposed as a needed program for Oregon. People with family responsibilities and/or commitments find themselves unable to attend a residential campus to gain a baccalaureate degree. The main thrust of the proposed external degree program is in the area of non-traditional experiences for academic credit.

The degree in General Studies would be awarded by the Oregon State System of Higher Education. College credits could be assigned for advanced placement through CLEP (College Level Examination Programs), television courses, earlier college credits, independent study, work experience, and travel. The requirement pattern would be set up by the State Board of Higher Education, and the Division of Continuing Education would assist in implementing the program.

A major aspect of the external degree program is a proposed advisory and personal contact service to be performed by the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN and the OREGON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. AAUW members, librarians, and others contacted by AAUW branches in the forty-two communities where they function, would serve as program advisers (or "mentors") in study and resource centers throughout the state, since lack of personal contact has been identified as one key to the failure of independent study.

Are you able to spend some study time on a bachelor's degree? Would you want a BA or BS degree if you could achieve one without having to spend time on a university or college campus? If so, AAUW's External Degree Study Committee would like to hear from you. Mail this coupon to: Donna Maddish, 2064 Vicksburg Ave., Bend, Oregon 97701 Chairperson, Oregon External Degree Study Committee

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