



## Fighting Fire with Fire

In early summer, a select few corpsmembers worked on a prescribed burn outside Healdsburg, helping to conduct a wildland-urban interface burn at Fitch Mountain Villas. Wildland-urban interface burns are a type of prescribed fire and a great way to reduce fuel loads in areas where houses share borders with open space or large, recreational areas. Under the leadership of Dr. Sasha Berleman from Fire Forward, corpsmembers got this incredible experience under their belt while helping this community in north Sonoma County stay resilient in the face of future fires. The corpsmembers participating in this project earned their Basic Wildland Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2) certifications earlier this year through our partnership with the Watershed Research Training Center, as highlighted in our last newsletter.

In addition to taking advantage of opportunities within CCNB, some corpsmembers are expanding their knowledge by working independently with our partners. Sergio, a corpsmember in Sonoma who completed his FFT2 certification in the spring, was accepted into the 2022-2023 Fire Forward Fellowship, where he is already engaging in coursework, field work, and skills development. He will complete 300 hours work this year in areas of planning controlled burns, doing landowner outreach, and implementing the burns themselves. Sergio is excited to use his time management skills to balance participating in the CCNB program, attending John Muir Charter School, and completing his Fellowship with Fire Forward. He has a lot ahead of him, but he is no stranger to hard work; while his teacher normally recommends corpsmembers aim to complete about two high school credits a month, Sergio has been known to complete as many as 10 in a month's time! Sergio is well on his pathway to achieving his dream of becoming a firefighter.

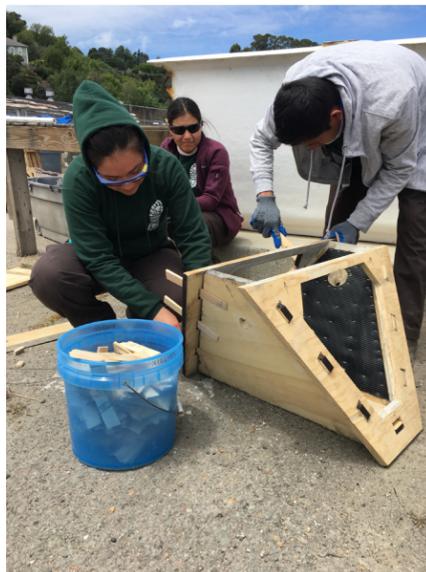


## Using Oysters and Reefs to Combat Climate Change

Earlier this year, Marin corpsmembers went on a field trip to San Francisco State's Estuary & Ocean Science Center to learn about the amazing work that team is doing to create innovative designs for living shorelines: constructed nature-based shorelines that enhance habitat and provide structure for animals such as oysters to live in while also acting as a barrier against waves and generally being more resilient in the face of storms. These shorelines help combat climate change by building up marshes, which improve water quality and biodiversity while also storing incredible amounts of carbon, sequestering it from the atmosphere.

Our corpsmembers learned about all of this in theory as well how it relates to nature-based adaption, the principle of adapting to climate change using nature-based solutions and empowering existing ecosystems. A translator was available all day to ensure Spanish-speaking corpsmembers got the same experience as corpsmembers fluent in English. After time in the classroom, corpsmembers broke into groups and rotated through two stations. One station focused on eelgrass, and corpsmembers used microscopes to view some of the tiny animals, plants, and algae that live in this habitat. At this station, they also learned all about and experienced some hands-on time with oysters and other organisms on reefs. At the other station, corpsmembers helped build the living shoreline itself. They assembled and prepared molds of the various elements of the structure and then poured concrete into the molds to create the shorelines pieces.

This hands-on day of exploration and learning was the perfect opportunity for corpsmembers to develop their physical skills of building and learning the direct connection between their work and fighting climate change. From beginning the day with theory to putting it into practice at the end of the day, corpsmembers and staff agreed that the field trip was a great success.



## Back at the Marin County Fair

For the first time since before the pandemic began, the Marin County Fair took place in-person! CCNB's Zero Waste team was in charge of waste diversion in the eating areas, with a corpsmember handling each one of our eco-stations and educating the public as to which material goes in which container. Throughout the event, corpsmembers also conducted litter abatement all over the grounds, ensuring everyone could enjoy all the fair had to offer in a clean and safe environment. This event is always one of our corpsmembers' favorites because the excitement of the event-goers is contagious!



## You're Invited!

Conservation Corps North Bay corpsmembers have always worked hard to achieve their dreams, but the corpsmembers and students at Santa Rosa Youth Connections who have been working and attending high school during this pandemic have truly exemplified determination, dedication, and diligence.

Please join us in celebrating our graduates of John Muir Charter School at our first public graduation ceremony since 2019. The event will take place at Casa Grande High School (333 Casa Grande Road) in Petaluma from 3:30 - 5 PM on Saturday, September 17th. Please RSVP to [development@ccnorthbay.org](mailto:development@ccnorthbay.org). Can't make it? Consider celebrating our graduates by making an online donation at [ccnorthbay.org/donate](https://ccnorthbay.org/donate).

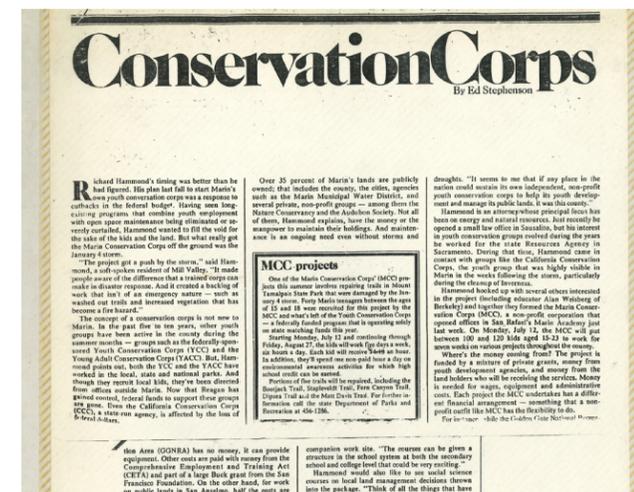
**Early Sponsors: Field Construction, Lifeguard Wealth, Angel Minor, Oliver's Markets**



## 40 Years Have Flown By

In honor of 40 years of empowering youth, conserving natural resources, and building community, we want to take a moment to honor the incredible work that corpsmembers and staff have accomplished across the decades. We have come a long way in 40 years, from starting out working out of trailers to operating three facilities across Marin and Sonoma Counties. What started as a program in the summer months for 40 young people has turned into a year-round program serving approximately 200 corpsmembers every year. None of this would be possible without our amazing community, and we want to thank you for being a part of this journey.

Were you or someone you know a corpsmember? Or maybe a participant in one of our other programs? We would love to hear from you! Send us an email at [development@ccnorthbay.org](mailto:development@ccnorthbay.org) and let us know when you were in our program and what you have been up to since.



To see this image enlarged and our entire timeline of program milestones, go online and visit us at [ccnorthbay.org/about-ccnb/40-years](https://ccnorthbay.org/about-ccnb/40-years).

## Shop Our Amazon Wishlist

Corpsmembers rely on community support for access to transportation, technology, and more. Use the QR code to visit our Amazon wishlist and purchase something for our corpsmembers, whether it's a laptop for their schoolwork or a pack of baby food for their new infant.



## Green Note Contest!

These past few years have brought us droughts, intense fire seasons, and various other impacts of climate change. While we recognize systemic change is critical to combat these issues, we want to hear how our readers individually contribute to the solution! What tips and tricks do you have to save water, reuse products, and generally live greener?

Send us your tips by email to [development@ccnorthbay.org](mailto:development@ccnorthbay.org), by mail to **Mary Ewing c/o Conservation Corps North Bay, 11 Pimentel Court, Novato CA 94949**, or by direct message on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. Any tips submitted by October 1st, 2022 will be entered into a drawing to win some special CCNB gear, so don't wait to share your wisdom!

# CONSERVATION CORPS NORTH BAY

*A path to a better future.*



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## About CCNB

Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB) is the oldest local nonprofit youth conservation corps in the country. Serving Marin and Sonoma Counties since 1982, CCNB has helped thousands of young people achieve their goals through education and job skills, while serving the environment and community. Our mission is to develop youth and conserve natural resources for a resilient, sustainable, and equitable community.

Follow us on your favorite social media channels to stay up-to-date on all our projects, corpmember spotlights, and program announcements!



[CCNorthBay.org](http://CCNorthBay.org)

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