



SCA MASSACHUSETTS AMERICORPS  
Final Report  
November 2018 – September 2019



department of  
Conservation and Recreation | dcr



SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of the environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.

The Student Conservation Association's Massachusetts AmeriCorps program is a residential community of young conservation and education stewards based in Kenneth Dubuque State Forest in the Berkshire Hills of Western Massachusetts. Each year, the program hosts twenty-six 18-25 year-old members who come from across the country to dedicate 5 or 10 months to serving the local community and the Commonwealth through full-time education and conservation service. This year, the members of the SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps provide over 38,009 hours of conservation and education service, teaching environmental education in local schools, serving as interns in local conservation organizations, and completing high-priority conservation projects in the public lands throughout the commonwealth. September 2019 marked the completion of the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps partnership between the Student Conservation Association, The Massachusetts Service Alliance, The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Corporation for National and Community Service.

## Program Year Summary

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 saw the end of the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of the SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps program, and what a great year it was. From November through September, enthusiastic members shared the experience of living in an intentional community setting, devoting full time service to the people and the public lands of Massachusetts, under the guidance of the program staff. The members' commitment to service and community enabled them to work hard, bond as a corps team and positively impact Massachusetts.

The two-season structure of the program, with the first 4 months dedicated to environmental education and the next 6 months to conservation service, allows the members to have a broad range of leadership experiences and this year was no exception. During the 10 months of the program, members taught over 1,059 lessons reaching 2,154 students, worked with 21 schools and local conservation organizations, participated in 4 service projects, completed 45 high priority conservation projects in 40 different public land sites, and served over 38,009 hours to the local community, people, and public lands of Massachusetts.

## Members

The members of SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps are a diverse group of 18-25 year olds from across the country that chose to dedicate their time to serving the land and people of Massachusetts. **See Appendix A for full member Bios**

### 10-month members

Adam Winfield, NY  
Andrew Crowe, OH  
Chris Cornett, WA  
Danielle Huntress, IN  
Emily Eitel, CA  
Grace Sullivan, IL  
Hanna Brooks, NC  
Hannah Putnam, NH  
James Jamieson, TN

Katherine Perkoski, MA  
Kathryn McGee, VA  
Konstantin Mijanovic, MA  
Leah Wildeman, AZ  
Olivia Grady, NY  
Rachel Rothe, IN  
Ryan Olson, IL  
Samuel Spence, MA  
Walter Commins, MD

### 5-month members

Aaron Maddocks, CA  
Davis Toler, NE  
Doug Rouse, NC  
Erin DuMontelle, IN  
Isaac Haas, LA  
Kia Brown, MA  
Lilly Haley, MA

## Staff

Program Director – Tim Craig  
Education Coordinator – Leigh Whaley  
Conservation Coordinator – Dave Ciernia  
Program Assistant – Kelsey Allen



## Member Training

During the 2018-2019 program year, members received high quality training covering a range of topics, including leadership skills, education/teacher training, and professional certifications.

### The 10-month members received the following training specific to the education season:

- *Leave No Trace Trainer*
- *Project Wild, Project Wet, and Growing Up Wild*
- *Place Based Education Learning Lab*
- *Teaching to Multiple Intelligences*
- *Responsive Classroom*
- *Local History*
- *Local Tree and Plant Identification*
- *Lesson Planning and Developing a Theme*

### Both 5 and 10 month members received the following training for both community living and conservation work:

- *Wilderness First Responder Certification through Aerie Wilderness Medicine*
- *Game of Logging Chainsaw Certification*
- *Rigging Training*
- *Basic Carpentry Training*
- *SCA Conservation WorkSkills Trainin*
- *Mission Driven Risk Management*
- *Communication and Conflict Resolution skills*
- *Leadership Compass*
- *Teambuilding experiences*
- *Peer Leadership Strategies*
- *Camp Skills and Outdoor Living*



## Education Season Summary (School Reports are in Appendix B)

For the first four months of the program, the members receive training in, and devote the majority of service to environmental education and community enrichment. They start their training with one week of Orientation, during which they receive the necessary trainings from AmeriCorps and SCA, including driver safety, history of the organizations, risk management, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. During the next three weeks, the members receive high quality education training from in-house and partner trainers. They are trained and certified as instructors for a number of nationally recognized environmental education curricula (including Project Wild) and as Leave No Trace Trainers. Other trainings include Responsive Classroom (a method of classroom management utilized by many of our partners), place-based education, teaching to multiple intelligences, developing a theme, and much more. During this time they are also given myriad opportunities to practice and receive feedback on teaching to various groups of peers and students. During the education season, members teach environmental and place-based education lessons to elementary school students of varying age level throughout the week, in addition to spending time developing or working with existing after-school programs. Tuesday through Thursday, pairs of members serve in each of their assigned schools for one, two, or three days each week, with the remaining days spent either in a second school placement or with an internship with a local conservation non-profit or government



organization. Mondays are designated for lesson planning, community chores, and a weekly consensus-based community meeting. Fridays are spent engaged in special enrichment events beyond the scope of their weekly education service; this is often the best time for members to serve in different schools that we only partner with once or twice a year.

In addition to regular environmental education lessons, members also deliver lesson in Leave No Trace to all of the students that they regularly teach. Two members ran a Leave No Trace Travelling Classroom, providing outreach education in Leave No Trace principles to additional schools throughout the region. This LNT education outreach served as a valuable metric of the program's broad reaches, using pre- and post-lesson assessments to gauge the success of the lessons and the students' understanding of the topics covered, as well as allow members to make improvements for future lessons. The LNT lessons were the basis for a metric used in the application for the AmeriCorps grant the program received.

### **2019 Partner Schools**

*Bernardston Elementary School – Bernardston, MA*

*Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School – Shelburne Falls, MA*

*Colrain Central School – Colrain, MA*

*Emma L. Miller (Savoy) Elementary School – Savoy, MA*

*Hilltown Cooperative Public Charter School – Easthampton, MA*

*Hawlemont Regional School – Charlemont, MA*

*Rowe Elementary School – Rowe, MA*

*Northfield Elementary School – Northfield, MA*

*Sanderson Academy – Ashfield, MA*

*Pearl Rhodes Elementary School – Leyden, MA*

*Greenfield Middle School – Greenfield, MA*

*Craneville Elementary School – Dalton, MA*

*New Hingham Regional School – Chesterfield, MA*

*Conway Grammar School – Conway, MA*

*MLK Charter School – Springfield, MA*

*Williamstown Elementary School – Williamstown, MA*

*Anne T. Dunphy School – Williamsburg, MA*

*Westhampton Elementary School – Westhampton, MA*

*Littleville Elementary School – Huntington, MA*

*Hancock School – Hancock, MA*

*Wahconah High School – Dalton, MA*



### **2019 Partner Conservation Organizations**

*Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Refuge Nature Preschool*

*Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics*

*Massachusetts DCR Trails & Greenways*

*Massachusetts DCR Discovery Center*

*Massachusetts DCR Western Regional Headquarters (Interpretive)*

*Red Gate Educational Farm*

*Trustees of the Reservations*

*DCR Mount Greylock Visitor Center*

*Franklin Land Trust*



## Member Output Highlights from Education Season

Number of full time members	18
Total number of students taught	2,154
Number of student contact hours	4,787
Total number of lessons taught	1,059
Total number of lessons assisted	401
Number of after school programs lead	22
Number of after school programs assisted	23
Number of school partnerships	16
Organizations directly served (excluding schools)	8
Community service events	4
Conservation placement hours	447.5
Total Service Hours since October 2018	15,307.75



## Member Stories from Education Season:

### *Honey Bees*

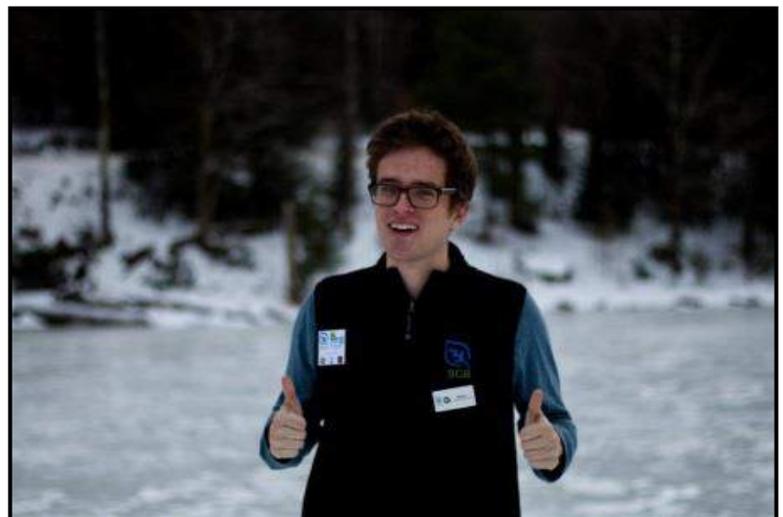


As a part of our SCA Massachusetts Americorps program in Western Massachusetts, we are assigned a school or a conservation placement, which we teach at every week Tuesday through Thursday. We teach with the same person at our school, and we get to know our school and its students well. However, every Friday, we take a break from going to our regular school placements so we can go somewhere new. During our education meeting the previous Monday, we discuss what schools

we are going to visit and who our new, one-time, teaching partner is going to be. Don't get me wrong, I love teaching with my teaching partner every week, we work well together, but it is refreshing to work with somebody different. It is awesome that we get to work with many different teaching styles and still create cool, fun lessons. And that is what Friday events represent, a change of pace and an opportunity to try something new.

It is fun to go to other schools and see where my other friends and Corps. members teach. I get to hear the impact of the SCA from the stories their students tell us. We also get a chance to visit schools where the SCA is not stationed. A couple of Friday's ago, I was able to visit Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence in Springfield, a very different setting then the small schools in the hilltowns we see throughout the rest of the week. It was well worth the hour drive to be able to teach in a bigger, driven, city school.

We are also able to teach lessons that are we may not get to teach as often as we may like. For example, I was able to teach about honey bees, my favorite thing to teach about, to three different classes! And if I play my cards right, I may also be able to teach about honey bees for the next two Friday events! We also get to do fun things besides teach. Last Friday we put on a sketch of the book *The Lorax*, and I led a rousing rendition of the camp chant "Little Red Wagon." All in all, Friday events are a great, refreshing change of pace.



## Conservation Season Summary (Hitch Reports are in Appendix C)

Over the past few years, the program calendar has slowly been shifting, starting and ending later. This is the first year that the corps was able to fully take advantage of this shift, with conservation season training starting in the spring, instead of in the snow!

Conservation Season begins with the integration of 5-month members into the community. This is an exciting and difficult time, full of change (weather, education to conservation service, and the addition of new people in the community). Overall, the members deal with the transition really well, and by the end of conservation training, everyone is ready to tackle the projects as a team. Trainings include: Wilderness First Responder, Specialty skills, Conservation Work Skills, Spring Hitch, and Crew Leader training.

This year, Specialty Skills and Conservation Work Skills were both completed at and around Kenneth Dubuque State Forest and Spring Hitch was completed at Nickerson State Park.

For specialty skills the members each select 1 skill they would like to specialize in: chainsaw, rigging, or carpentry. For a week the team of sawyers receive levels 1 and 2 of the Northeast Woodland Training's Game of Logging certification in chainsaw safety and maintenance, the team of riggers receives training in the theory and practice of a variety of rigging systems using mechanical advantage and grip hoist equipment to help move large rocks and other materials, and the team of carpenters learn the basics of carpentry and put their skills to use constructing a variety of things. During SCA conservation workskills training, members learn skills in trail design, tread and drainage, rock work, and construction using native timber, concluding the formal training for conservation season. Finally all members receive a week of leadership training and site visits in preparation for each leading their peers for one or more 10 day conservation service hitch.

Once training is complete, members set out on hitches, which are 10-day stints in groups of 4-5 members, living and serving on public lands, completing high priority conservation projects ranging from new trail construction to trail signage installation, stone staircase or timber bridge construction, or other projects to improve the public lands in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. During the season, members serve on 45 hitches in 40 public land sites throughout the commonwealth, spending over 85 days living and serving outside during the course of the season.



**2019 Project Locations – See Appendix C for a short overview of each project**

Machican Mohawk Trail  
 Leominster State Forest  
 Hopkinton State Park  
 DAR State Forest  
 Greylock Glen  
 Nickerson State Park  
 Cochituate State Park  
 Boston Harbor Islands State Park  
 MT Greylock State Park  
 Mohawk Trail State Forest  
 Summer Star Wildlife Refuge  
 Wachusett Mountain State Reservation  
 Rollstone Hills  
 Mount Tom State Reservation  
 Wachusett Reservoir

Clarksburg State Park  
 MA Central Rail Trail  
 Freetown State Forest  
 Belle Isla Marsh Reservation  
 Wompatuck State Park  
 Ashland State Park  
 Middlesex Fells Reservation  
 Pokpong State Park  
 Savoy Mountain State Forest  
 Hatfield Open Spaces  
 Mt Everett State Reservation  
 Kenneth Dubuque State Forest  
 Breakheart Reservation  
 Shawme State Forest  
 Callahan State Park

**Member Output Highlights from Conservation Season**

Total hours spent on conservation projects	17,233.25
Number of conservation service projects participated in	46
Total Miles of trail impacted (new trail, reroutes, trail brushing, trail hardening)	78
Number of signs installed	175
Number of steps built (rock and timber)	68
Number of drainage structures built/maintained	77
Number of bridges built (bog bridges, boardwalks, dimensional or timber bridges)	34
Kiosks built	3
Acres of invasive plants removed	11.5
Total acres of land protected or restored	41.77



## Member Story from Conservation Season



### Chainsaw training – Erin DuMontelle

Each Conservation Season, each person will learn one of three Specialty Skills: Carpentry, Rigging, or Chainsaw. I had the opportunity to be a sawyer and learn to operate the chainsaw along with 9 others. We became a team, and this was our story.

All 10 of us come in from different backgrounds; from right out of the big city to rural towns with cows and corn, we were a diverse group. Some of us were just out of high school while others were right out of college, yet we all ended up in Hawley, Massachusetts. The two things we all

had in common: our love for the environment and none of us had ever cut a tree down. For most of us, a chainsaw had never rested in our grasp.

The best way to get into the mindset of a sawyer is to jump with both feet. No artist picked up their talent from day one. In our case, no one was going to be able to fell a tree with no experience. It can be dangerous, and there should be fear. If you let that fear scare you from trying though, you will rarely achieve much. In our case, we had to learn to respect the saw, but we also had to have the confidence to control it. Safety was key; it requires so much to run a chainsaw: ear protection, eye protection, Kevlar pants, Kevlar boots, long sleeves, and gloves. Our list is the biggest of any specialty skill. The mandated care list is also long, from a sharpening the chain and keeping all bolts tightened properly, to having a well-oiled bar and the perfect gasoline mix; This is truly the specialty skill of checklists.

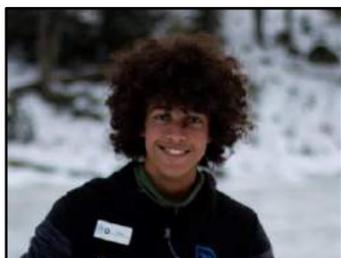
It takes a few yanks on the starter cord, but the saw comes to life. The rpm creates a loud and rumbling roar that can be heard half of a mile away. It is made easy by the movies. It sometimes will take you 9 or 10 tries to get the thing revved up. This can create so much frustration in any new sawyer, but it is such a huge feeling of accomplishment when you finally get it. The vibrations are dulled thanks to the inner mechanisms, but there is still a shake that is drawn in through your fingertips. Making sure your thumb is wrapped around the handle securely, lifting the full 16 pounds of vibrating metal and making the first cut is both terrifying and exhilarating.

Over the next week, our list of vocabulary grew exponentially: Game of Logging, face cut, bore cut, hinge wood, trigger wood, soft wood v.s. hardwood, etc. It was also learned that felling trees requires quite a bit of math. Diameters and measurements of tree rings along with percentage approximations was much more than I had ever expected; it is required though for the best and safest results. Trees big and small could be felled with precision and accuracy with everyone being able to tell the tale at dinner.

Once a tree falls, it becomes usable material or a nuisance depending on where it lands; therefore, limbing and bucking up trees followed. This is where the limbs are taken off of the tree, and then the trunk is sectioned and cut into pieces. On a hitch in the field, these skills are extremely useful. The tree can be used to create sills and stringers for a bridge; the tree can be sectioned into rounds to be cut further into firewood, or a tree fallen across a trail path can be removed. The specialty skill of chainsaw is versatile in so many ways as long as there are trees in the area.

For years to come, our group of 10 sawyers will be able to think back to our training. A chainsaw is a tool that anyone can wield, but I feel smarter and safer now that I have this training, all provided by SCA.

## Appendix A – SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps 2018-2019 Members



Chris Cornett is from Seattle, Washington. He graduated from Yelm High School in 2018 and wants to be both a Forest/Park Ranger and a photographer for National Geographic. With 3 years of past SCA experience he's feeling very prepared for these next 10 months.



Danielle Huntress is an Outdoor and Environmental Recreation Major at Central Michigan University. She lives to work outside, and when she's not working she sings, writes, and makes friendship bracelets. She would like to eventually become a special agent for the Fish and Wildlife Service, or possibly join the US Coast Guard.



Walter Commins is from Greenbelt, Maryland, a suburb of Washington D.C. He recently graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland with a degree in Biology and Environmental Studies. Walter was a camp counselor for four summers, where he gained his love for working with kids. He is also passionate about conservation, and excited to start working on projects throughout the season.



Grace Sullivan traveled to Hawley from the northern suburbs of Chicago! She graduated from Lake Forest College in 2017 with degrees in Environmental Studies and Sociology. SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps is a perfect opportunity to explore her role in the environmental world. When Grace isn't hiking or doing yoga, she can be found reading, creating a new playlist for her radio show, or trying a new recipe.



Katie McGee is from Gloucester, Virginia and is a recent graduate of James Madison University. Inspired by a lifelong love for the outdoors, she studied biology and pursues opportunities in outdoor field work and all things conservation! This is Katie's second SCA internship and her first time living in Massachusetts. When she isn't volunteering or doing field work, Katie enjoys kayaking, rock climbing, reading, and exploring new areas!



Rayla Putnam is from Wilton, NH, but has briefly lived in Estes Park, CO and Vashon, WA for the last two summers. She is a recent graduate of Colby-Sawyer College with a BS in Environmental Science and a minor in Studio Art. She has always been passionate about creating with her hands, whether it be through drawing/painting or building trails. She has worked on two SCA high school trail crews in Morristown, NJ and Isle Royale, MI. Before moving to Hawley, she was the Sustainability Assistant for Colby-Sawyer and worked part time at Spring Ledge Farm in New London, NH. In her free time, you may find her drawing, singing, hiking, or playing guitar.



Emily Eitel is from Fremont, California. Emily is 22 years old and recently graduated from California State University, Chico. The last semester of college Emily spent studying abroad in Florianopolis, Brazil. She loves playing sports with her friends, hiking and backpacking. This is first time serving with SCA.



Rachel Rothe is 22 years old and from a small town outside St. Louis, Missouri. She recently graduated from the University of Missouri where she studied biology and discovered her love for wildlife and the environment. Any free time she has is spent traveling the world and hanging out with her golden retriever, Jonny.



Emerson Jamieson hails from Nashville, TN, far in the south. Being used to %100 humidity and 100° temperatures, Hawley is a new and different world to him. He enjoys hiking, cycling, listening to music, watching films, and playing a few varied stringed instruments. Emerson is excited to meet his new community, get accustomed to his environment, begin a new adventure of fostering stewardship in the local community, and gain a new sense of self as an environmental educator and conservationist!



Hanna Brooks is native to the Charlotte, North Carolina area. She graduated UNC Chapel Hill with a B.A in Psychology, and upon graduating swapped the research lab with the outdoors to ultimately pursue environmental conservation. She plans to continue the latter and obtain a career centralized around community service and environmental preservation.



Olivia Grady found her love for nature while growing up along the banks of the Delaware River in the Catskill Mountains. She draws experience from her diverse positions as an organic farmer, beekeeper, landscaper, tutor, research assistant, and animal caretaker, among many others. Olivia graduated from Northeastern University in December 2017 with a B.S. in Environmental Science. She hopes to use her skills to protect our planet and inspire others to do so as well.



Leah Wildeman is from Fountain Hills, Arizona. She attended Coconino Community College in Flagstaff, Arizona and got her Associates Degree in Anthropology at Scottsdale Community College in Scottsdale, Arizona. In her free time Leah enjoys hiking, camping, kayaking, and petting cute dogs. If you've lost her, you can normally find her cliff jumping or kayaking at a local lake. Leah spent some time trail building in Costa Rica and is excited to use her skills as an SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps member.



Katherine Perkoski is a native of Plymouth, MA and is happy to be serving in New England. Katie is a graduate from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in Music Education and is passionate about teaching music and empowering students. In the future she would love to both teach and perform in the music field. Katie spent the last year in Cleveland, OH serving with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps at a non-profit and working in Workforce Re-entry and the Expressive Arts. Service has become an essential part of her life and the SCA is an amazing opportunity to work with the Earth and build community with diverse and passionate individuals.



Ryan Olson is from Evanston, Illinois, a northern suburb of Chicago. He graduated from Marquette University in the winter of 2017 with a degree in Marketing. Although he studied business in college, Ryan has always had a passion for the outdoors. He enjoys sports, hiking, skiing, swimming, and working with animals. He has spent time in the past volunteering at animal shelters and working at an animal hospital. This is Ryan's first time serving with SCA and he is incredibly excited for the opportunity.



Andrew Crowe, from Bowling Green, Ohio, studied Environmental Policy & Analysis at Bowling Green State University. After a stint with Wood County Park District and the National Park Service at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, he joined up with SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps to further his passion to serve the people and the planet. When not working, he enjoys watching hockey, playing guitar, instant photography, and leading meditations.



Sam Spence hails from Lowell MA. This is his second AmeriCorps program and his first time working with the SCA. He joined this program as a way to step out of his comfort zone and make new experiences. He's very excited to work in schools and on trails. After the program he plans on attending U-Mass Lowell for education.



Lilly Haley hails from South Deerfield in western Massachusetts, about 45 minutes away from Hawley. She joined AmeriCorps NCCC located in Sacramento straight out of high school last year and is so excited to be doing another program! She loves running, camping, hiking, and basically all other outdoors activities and is looking forward to the next 5 months.



Davis Toler is from Little Rock Arkansas and is 21 years old. He joined the SCA because he loves the outdoors and he loves meeting new and interesting people. He attended Arkansas State for 2 years and left to find his passion and experience more to finally decide on what degree he wants to commit to when he returns. He likes to try new things and believes you can only have fun if you've experienced many different things. He's trying something new and can't wait to see where it lands him.



Erin DuMontelle is from a little town in Indiana, and is so excited to join this amazing crew. She grew up visiting her grandparents' farm and working in the woods. She always loved being outside. She headed off to college 3 years back and completed a degree in Marine Science at Coastal Carolina University. While in college, Erin was able to travel down the southeastern coast as well as abroad for both school and pleasure. On her adventures, she learned that she really enjoys helping to make the world environmentally better. Massachusetts is her newest adventure, and she can't wait to see what an incredible impact the corps makes.



Kai Brown graduated with an Environmental Economic degree from Binghamton University and knew that he would love to get experience working in conservation. He is really looking forward to serving at the multitude of state parks in Massachusetts and doing meaningful work with the other wonderful program members! This is Kai's first time doing an SCA program.



Doug Rouse (23) is a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina, with a degree in biology. He grew up in North Carolina and enjoys the outdoors, martial arts and SCUBA diving.



Isaac Haas is originally from Shreveport Louisiana, but has spent all of his summers in New York, where he fell in love with the beauty of the north country and the Adirondacks. After having the opportunity to travel all over the US for work, he discovered anew the natural beauty of this country, which led him to the SCA. He is excited to spend the summer helping to continue their mission and to explore and preserve the land in Massachusetts.



Aaron Maddocks was born in Modesto, California in 1995. After high school, he went to Modesto Junior College where he studied music technology and the programming of synthesizers. He eventually transferred over to CSU Stanislaus where he started his own electronic music club with great success. It was here that he then started to apply for jobs in being a national park ranger. Aaron believes that in our day and age, a ranger is just what the doctor ordered and he intends to be the best ranger he can be.



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps

### Education Season Appendix

2018 -2019



*department of*  
Conservation and Recreation



## The Partner Schools of SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps partnered with 22 different elementary schools in western Massachusetts in 2019. The program regularly partners with 10 of those schools, which host members throughout their 11 weeks of in-school education service for one to three days a week. The following profiles spotlight the members' varied experiences with those ten schools.

## Pearl Rhodes Elementary School

Leyden, MA

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School is a K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Members were hosted here on Thursdays.

Pearl Rhodes is the smallest school that members visited, with a total of 32 students attending. This allowed the members placed here, Katie and Konstantin, to develop strong personal relationships with all of the students. In addition to teaching all of the students at Pearl Rhodes every Thursday, the members placed here also ran an after school program focused on nature exploration.



### Pearl Rhodes Statistics

#### Members Placed at Pearl Rhodes:

Katie McGee and Konstantin Mijanovic

**Number of Students Taught:**  
109 students

**Number of Lessons Taught:**  
102 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:**  
54 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 15 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to Pearl Rhodes:** 409.25 hours

# Sanderson Academy

Ashfield, MA

Sanderson Academy is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District. Members were hosted at Sanderson Tuesday through Thursday every week.

The members placed at Sanderson also ran an after school program with the district-wide After Care Program at Mohawk Trail Regional High School for 6 weeks.

When asked what advice they would give to future members at Sanderson, Emerson and Grace said this:

*"This school has a LOT of love, and is very close knit. Almost half the students are siblings, and many more are cousins etc. Get to know all of them, because they will leave beautiful impressions on you.*

*Play with the kids and spend as much time as you can with them outside the classroom (gym, library, recess, lunch). This will build up your rapport and in turn the students will tend to be more attentive in class.*

*We tried to attend as many after-school events as possible (school play at Sanderson, play preview at Mohawk on a field trip, showcase at Mohawk, etc). It's so much fun to spend time with the kids outside of the classroom and it also shows them that you care!!"*



## Sanderson Statistics

### **Members Placed at Sanderson:**

Emerson Jamieson and Grace Sullivan

### **Number of Students Taught:**

120 students

### **Number of Lessons Taught: 101**

lessons

### **Number of Lessons Assisted:**

35 lessons

### **Number of Lessons Taught on**

DCR: 47 lessons

### **Service Hours Dedicated to**

**Sanderson: 653.25 hours**



*What a great opportunity for our next generation to blossom! We are all so lucky that the [members] takes an interest in conveying a message of respect and kindness for nature and for ourselves. The students and staff thought very highly of Grace and Emerson.  
- Sanderson teacher*

## Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School

Easthampton, MA

Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School is a Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade public charter school. Members were hosted at Hilltown every Thursday.

The members placed at Hilltown created and implemented a 4-week mini course on wilderness survival, assisted with an existing after school program, assisted students with their science fair projects, and led an after school art club.

When asked to describe the environment at Hilltown, Rayla and Danielle had this to say:

*"Hilltown is a very wonderful community. They prioritize art, music and environmentalism in many aspects of the school, and give students the space to be explore themselves. Most of the students are very bright; the school does a really great job accommodating students of different learning styles and speeds. There are so many projects going on at this school. We didn't know how much the school had to offer from the beginning. The mini course was a lot to plan, so make sure that it's something that you both find really fun and engaging!"*



### Hilltown Statistics

**Members Placed at Hilltown:**  
Danielle Huntress and Rayla Putnam

**Number of Students Taught:** 60 students

**Number of Lessons Taught:** 16 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:** 22 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 2 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to Hilltown:** 241.00 hours

## Emma L. Miller School

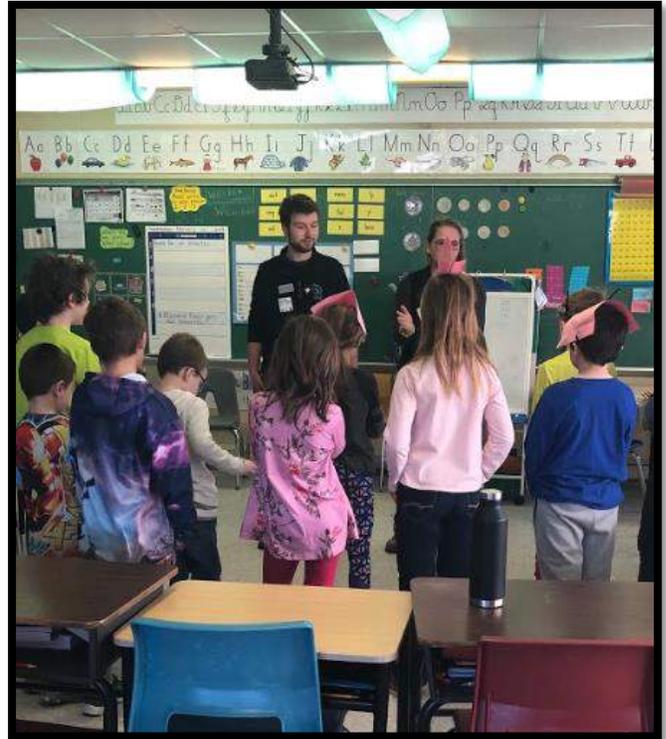
Savoy, MA

Emma L. Miller School is a Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade public school. Members attended Emma L. Miller every Tuesday and Wednesday.

On Wednesdays during winter, students were given the option to participate in an afternoon ski program; the students that didn't opt into the ski program were given a fun and enriching alternative with Emily and Adam. Outdoor exploration and winter enrichment were the focus of those special afternoons.

When asked about his favorite part about teaching at Emma L. Miller, Adam had this to say:

*"My favorite part of teaching at my regular placement school was seeing the enthusiasm the students had about the topics we taught. When Emily and I taught a lesson, they had so many questions and made great connections. I really enjoyed seeing the students so excited to learn. They were really into what we had to teach and they love what I love, such as dinosaurs."*



### **Emma L. Miller Statistics**

**Members Placed at Emma L. Miller:** Emily Eitel and Adam Winfield

**Number of Students Taught:** 64 students

**Number of Lessons Taught:** 61 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:** 63 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 15 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to Emma L. Miller:** 495.00 hours

## Rowe Elementary School

Rowe, MA

Rowe Elementary is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school. Members attended Rowe every Tuesday and Wednesday.

In addition to their normal service at Rowe, Danielle and Rayla planned a Friday enrichment event for the school, in which a total of 12 members visited and taught guest lessons on pond ecology, pollution, sensory exploration, birds, and bats.

When asked to describe the school, Rayla and Danielle had this to say:

*"This school loves having us here. The kids are wicked smart; we had a lot of really good discussions about pollution and climate change with the [3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade] class, and in [the K/1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade class], the second graders really do help the kindergarteners if they need help. This place is an incredible community, and it's such a cute little school with one hallway, making it impossible to get lost in it."*



### Rowe Statistics

#### **Members Placed at Rowe:**

Danielle Huntress and Rayla Putnam

**Number of Students Taught:** 66 students

**Number of Lessons Taught:** 50 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:** 44 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 2 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to Rowe:** 421.00 hours

## Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School

Shelburne Falls, MA

Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School (BSE) is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District. It is the largest elementary school in the district. Members were hosted at BSE every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

The members placed at BSE taught the most lessons per week of any teaching pair. In addition to teaching at BSE 3 days a week, the members also organized and implemented an all-school, full-day enrichment event, in which all 18 members were hosted at the school, taught a total of 40 lessons, and ran an all-school event which included a production of *The Lorax*.

When asked what tips would help future corps members make the most of their time at BSE, Katie and Chris had this to say:

*"Split the work load as evenly as possible. Manage your time super well because you are teaching 16 classes a week in addition to Friday events and need to be ready for each. However, don't stress the details and just have fun with it. Be organized and don't be afraid to go off book or change it up in a lesson. Spend as much time with the students as you can. Eat and play at recess with them. Keep everything as hands-on as possible with games, experiments, books, peer-teaching and group work. Have the kids teach themselves and let them be creative. Get them in the outdoors more (although it can be hard in the winter. Each student is special and make sure you treat them all with care and compassion. Have so much fun and soak in the experience!"*



### BSE Statistics

#### **Members Placed at BSE:**

Chris Cornett and Katherine Perkoski

**Number of Students Taught:** 302 students

**Number of Lessons Taught:** 173 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:** 16 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 19 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to BSE:** 514.5 hours

# Bernardston Elementary School

Bernardston, MA

Bernardston Elementary School is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Members were hosted at Bernardston every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

The SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps partnership with Bernardston included three special events throughout the season – one all-school event at the school that all 18 members participated in, and two events at the Kenneth Dubuque State Forest. The latter events were attended by the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, and had a strong focus on outdoor exploration and nature-based learning.

Hanna and Ryan have stated that their favorite part of their experience was interacting with the students. Here's what they said:

*“Our students were incredible to work with. They were fun, attentive and interested in our lessons. We had a great time teaching them as well as playing games and doing fun activities. Seeing them advance their knowledge was rewarding but the best part was simply seeing them smiling, working together and having fun.”*



## **Bernardston Statistics**

### **Members Placed at Bernardston:**

Hanna Brooks and Ryan Olson

### **Number of Students Taught:**

164 students

### **Number of Lessons Taught:**

100 lessons

### **Number of Lessons Assisted:**

101 lessons

### **Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:**

39 lessons

### **Service Hours Dedicated to Bernardston:**

502.5 hours

## Northfield Elementary School

Northfield, MA

Northfield Elementary School is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Members were hosted at Northfield every Wednesday, and Thursday.

This year is our second year of partnership with Northfield Elementary School. Members Andy and Rachel both took initiative at Northfield to organize and implement a special Friday event, in which 8 total members visited the school and taught a variety of science lessons.

Regarding what makes their placement at Northfield special, Andy and Rachel had this to say:

*"Northfield is the best and is full of the sweetest and eager to learn students. Our school is unique in that we have a classroom called the Hive which is for behaviorally challenged kids. You may only be teaching one child for this class depending on the situation but it is a really unique opportunity to do a hands on lesson that you normally can't do with a full class."*

*Education season made Rachel and I want to continue with education in our futures. This was such a impactful experience for the both of us."*



*"My students love their AmeriCorps people! They are always so excited to have them come into the classroom and even get excited when they see them in the hallway."*

- Northfield teacher



### Northfield Statistics

#### **Members Placed at Northfield:**

Andrew Crowe and Rachel Rothe

#### **Number of Students Taught:**

180 students

#### **Number of Lessons Taught:**

138 lessons

#### **Number of Lessons Assisted:**

27 lessons

#### **Number of Lessons Taught on**

DCR: 4 lessons

#### **Service Hours Dedicated to**

Northfield: 456 hours

## Colrain Central School

Colrain, MA

Colrain Central School is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District. Members were hosted here on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

In addition to teaching lessons on a variety of science topics throughout the week, the members placed at Colrain also planned and completed a five-week-long after school program. Topics covered in the after school program included plants, bears, birds, trees, and tracking.

This is what Leah and Walter had to say about the legacy of SCA at Colrain Central School:

*“We learned that the staff and students both adore the SCA and have been working with us for around 16 years. We also learned that SCA has been, and continues to be a big edition to the school itself, and especially during school events!”*

This year, SCA’s main contact at Colrain Central School was Talia Miller, an alum of SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps from the 2002-2003 season!



### Colrain Statistics

#### **Members Placed at Colrain:**

Leah Wildeman and Walter Commins

#### **Number of Students Taught:**

109 students

#### **Number of Lessons Taught:**

102 lessons

#### **Number of Lessons Assisted:**

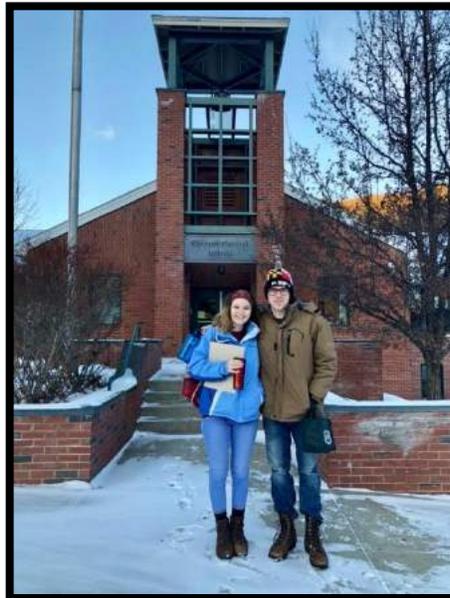
54 lessons

#### **Number of Lessons Taught**

**on DCR:** 15 lessons

#### **Service Hours Dedicated to**

**Colrain:** 409.25 hours



*“Very knowledgeable, patient, kind people, I'm very impressed this year!!”*

- Colrain teacher

## Hawlemont Regional School

Charlemont, MA

Hawlemont Regional School is a Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade public school in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District. Members were hosted here on Tuesday and Thursday.

The students at Hawlemont have a special focus on local agriculture, and each grade participates in the Hawlemont, Agriculture, and You Curriculum. The members placed at Hawlemont, Sam and Olivia, were involved in this strong school culture.

The members at Hawlemont Regional School also held internships at the DCR Great Falls Discovery Center in Turner's Falls on Wednesdays.



### Hawlemont Statistics

#### **Members Placed at Hawlemont:**

Olivia Grady and Sam Spence

#### **Number of Students Taught:**

162 students

#### **Number of Lessons Taught:**

65 lessons

**Number of Lessons Assisted:** 27 lessons

**Number of Lessons Taught on DCR:** 18 lessons

**Service Hours Dedicated to Hawlemont:** 347.0 hours

*“Great, friendly, engaging, willing to go above and beyond.”*

- Hawlemont teacher

## Hawley Nature Days 2019

For four days in the spring, the SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members hosted Hawley Nature Days. This camp-style program corresponds with spring vacation for public school students in the area, and provides a fun, free, enriching alternative to typical camps and child care options for parents.

One hundred students, hailing from twenty different towns in western Massachusetts (from as far away as in the west, Northfield in the north, and Easthampton in the south), visited the Kenneth Dubuque State Forest for this special program.

Each day, students were split into 8 different groups, with 1-2 members acting as “counselors.” They rotated around 8 different member-led environmental education stations, where the students were engaged in enriching activities and workshops on a variety of nature-based topics. Every day, students participated in team-building activities and nature journaling exercises, to add a cohesive element to their time with the program. Stations included topics such as Animal Forensics, Hawley History, Leave No Trace, Stupendous Salamanders, Bird Expeditions, Tracking, Story Time by the Pond, Outdoor Survival, and more!



Member Leah Wildeman, dressed here as the “Hawley Troll,” a much-loved character who knows *everything* about Hawley history!



Member Kathryn McGee, inspecting the fantastic fungi of Kenneth Dubuque State Forest with four rapt Hawley Nature Days participants!

# Additional Education Season Partners

Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Refuge and Nature Preschool

DCR Great Falls Discovery Center

DCR Trails and Greenways Program

DCR Interpretive Department

DCR Mount Greylock Visitors Center

Wahconah High School

Conway Grammar School

Williamstown Elementary School

Anne T. Dunphy Elementary School

MLK Charter School of Excellence

Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics

Westhampton Elementary School

Craneville Elementary School

Hancock Elementary School

Greenfield Math and Science Academy

New Hingham Regional School

Trustees of the Reservations





————— A partnership since 1997 —————



## Conservation Season 2019 - Appendix C

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONSERVATION WORK SKILLS.....	1
SPRING HITCH .....	2
DAR.....	3
GREYLOCK GLENN (I).....	4
MAHICAN MOHAWK (I).....	5
LEOMINSTER SF(I).....	6
HOPKINGTON SP.....	7
PEDDOCKS ISLAND .....	8
COCHITUATE SP.....	9
GREYLOCK GLENN (II) .....	10
LEOMINSTER SF(II).....	11
NICKERSON SP.....	12
MT. GREYLOCK.....	13
GREYLOCK GLENN (III).....	14
MOHAWK TRAIL SF .....	15
MAHICAN MOHAWK (II).....	16
LEOMINSTER SF(III).....	17
KESTRAL LAND TRUST .....	18
ROLLSTONE (I) .....	19
SUMMER STAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY.....	20
WACHUSETT BI-CENTENNIAL TRAIL (I).....	21
WACHUSETT RESERVOIR.....	22
CLARKSBURG SP.....	23
PURGATORY CHASM.....	24
QUABBIN RESERVOIR .....	25
ROLLSTONE (II).....	26
WACHUSETT BI-CENTENNIAL TRAIL (II) .....	27
FREETOWN .....	28
LEOMINSTER SF (IV).....	29
MASSASOIT SP .....	30
ROLLSTONE (III) .....	31
MIDDLESEX FELLS (I).....	32
WOMPATUCK SP.....	33
ASHLAND.....	34
BLUE HILLS RESERVATION .....	35
LEOMINSTER SF (V) .....	36
MIDDLESEX FELLS (II).....	37
ROLLSTONE (IV).....	38
BREAKHEART RESERVATION .....	39
HATFIELD OPEN SPACES .....	40
KENNETH DUBUQUE SF – HAWLEY .....	41
MT. EVERETT .....	42
TANNERY FALLS.....	43
CALLAHAN.....	44
SHAWME-CROWELL.....	45



sca<sup>®</sup>

dcr

Massachusetts



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps

### Conservation Work Skills, 4/29-5/3 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members took part in an intensive 5 day Conservation Work Skills training based in the lovely Kenneth Dubuque State Forest. The goal of the training was to give the members skills that they would need to be successful in Conservation Season. This training consisted of four stations - rustic timber bridge, rock staircase, new tread, and trail tread/drainage methods. Stations were led by trail experts from across the country and also SCA Massachusetts staff.



### Outputs from Conservation Work Skills:

Rock Steps Installed	16
Rock Gargoyles Installed	31
Water Bars Built	8
Trail Cleared	1.5 miles
Blow downs Removed	2



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps Spring Hitch, 5/13-5/17 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members traveled from their headquarters in Hawley, MA to Nickerson State Park at Cape Cod to participate in their annual Spring Hitch. Spring hitch is the opportunity for members to get their first taste of what Conservation Season really is, they are split into crews and are led by SCA staff in performing work/daily tasks, just as they would on a normal hitch. This gives them context for when they are asked to go out into the field as leaders, and helps ease them into Conservation Season.



### Outputs from Spring Hitch:

Signs Installed

8

Corridor Cleared

3.8 Miles

Dead Trees / Hangups Removed

4



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 1, May 21-May 30 DAR State Forest Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Rachel Rothe, Katie McGee, Walter Commins, Chris Cornett and Danielle Huntress spent 10 days at the DAR State Forest in Goshen, Massachusetts fixing up a .5 mile segment of the park's popular 'Long Trail'. The trail's popularity has caused the tread to become slippery and hard to walk on as many large roots have become exposed and the grade of the trail had become sloped and steep. The crew worked on clearing out several large areas of tangled and exposed roots and rerouted the trail in two areas. In addition to the work on the Long Trail, members also installed five new signs in various places throughout the park in areas where the trail location and directions were unclear. Because of the crew's efficient work, all expected work was completed early and the two additional trails were able to be brushed and their corridors were widened.



### Outputs from DAR State Forest Hitch:

Brushed Trail	1434 feet
Signs Installed	5
Refurbished Tread	60 feet
New Trail	233 feet



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: [Hitch 1], [5/21/19-5/30/19]

### Greylock Glen Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Samuel Spence, Grace Sullivan, Lilly Haley, Davis Toler, and Hanna Brooks completed a 10-day hitch project that entailed a sustainable trail re-route at Peck's Falls, rock barrier, and several rock steps leading down to the waterfall. The trail re-route provides a smoother alternative to the former steep trail and therefore allows many more visitors to access the trail. The rock barrier acts as a retaining wall from a drop-off and helps prevent further erosion. The rock steps allow an easier transition down a slope towards the waterfall. Through many rigging challenges the group learned a lot about the difficulties of setting up a high-line in a new environment. With countless songs, awkward dance moves, and words of encouragement, the members were able to successfully complete these projects.



### Outputs from Greylock Glen:

New Trail/Trail Re-route at Peck's Falls

225 ft

Rock steps

15 ft

Rock barrier/retaining wall

35 ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps:

### Mohican Mohawk Summary: Hitch 1 5/21-5/30 2019

Doug Rouse, Aaron Maddocks, Konstantine Mijanovic, Emily Eitel, Katherine Perkowski. For this hitch project, we were tasked with constructing both a parking lot as well as a kiosk. These features (along with the brush we cleared) made the Mohican Mohawk Trail far more accessible to the general public. This project involved a lot of aching backs from clearing the field for the parking lot and a few moments necessitating flexibility, but we were all very pleased with the final result. We learned a lot of new carpentry techniques as well as the importance of zipping up your tent during a thunderstorm!



### Outputs from Mohican Mohawk:

Parking Lot

1600 ft<sup>2</sup>

KIOSK

1

Trail clearing

.2 miles



SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #1, 5/21 - 5/30

Leominster State Forest Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Erin DuMontelle, Ryan Olson, Olivia Grady, and Kai Brown completed the installation of 40 trail signs within Leominster State Forest in Central Massachusetts. Prior to completion, trails had been marked with signs dating back two decades. The new signs increased the usability of the park tenfold by adding directions to 20 miles of trail. This will lead to less confusion and a decrease in the number of people lost in the woods dramatically. The posts used were of treated pine. This will differ with the southern section that will utilize black locust in experimentation to see which will hold up better over time.



Outputs from Leominster State Forest:

Sign Installation	20 miles of trail affected
Brushing for The North Face Race	2.5 miles cleared
Trash clean up for Crocker Pond Trail Parking	500 sq ft cleaned.



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #1, May 21st-30th Hopkinton State Park Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Andrew Crowe, Leah Wildeman, James Jamieson, Isaac Haas, and Rayla Putnam completed their first 10-day hitch in Hopkinton State Park which runs between Ashland and Hopkinton, MA. The park's Hardwood Trail used to pass right through a DCR maintenance yard, which posed a hazard to hikers and their pets. The crew surveyed the surrounding forest for an alternative route and constructed a new trail that would avoid the maintenance area while closing off respective parts of the old trail. The construction included brushing, sawing some saplings, clearing organic material, and filling with mineral soil to create a durable tread for many years of hiking. With countless goofy games along the way, the crew was able to complete more of the final route than initially anticipated.



### Outputs from Hopkinton State Park Hitch:

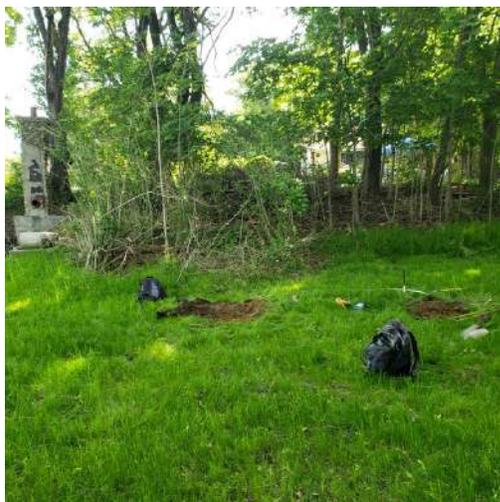
Trail Survey & Construction	977 ft
Trail Closure	374 ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #2, 6/3-6/13

### Pedlocks Island Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Sam, Leah, Walter, Dani spent 10 days on Pedlocks Island in Boston Harbor. They built a sign to pay tribute a recently destroyed landmark on the island. The "Island of lost soles" was a famous landmark and was very important to the locals and to the state. On the island the team saw lots of wildlife and spent their free time enjoying the ocean. The team also repaired deer fences and cleared trail corridor on the island.



### Outputs from Pedlocks Island:

1 Historic Landmark Tributed

1

Repaired Deer Fences

0.5 Acres

1.5 miles of trail brushed

1.5 Miles



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #2, 6/4/19 - 6/13/19 Cochituate State Park Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Olivia Grady, Doug Rouse, Rayla Putnam, Rachel Rothe, and Davis Toler spent 10 days working on Snake Brook Trail at Cochituate State Park. The trail is used by pedestrians and bikers, and serves as a "Healthy Heart Trail" in a high-traffic area of Natick, MA. Accessibility to this path was limited due to downed trees, overgrown vegetation, and steep slopes. These barriers were mediated by removing debris, brushing vegetation, rerouting sections of trail to avoid hills, and installing bullrails on a boardwalk above a swamp.



### Outputs from Cochituate State Park Hitch:

Corridor Brushed	1.5 mi
Railing Constructed	175 ft
Trail Created	1889 ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 2, June 4-13, 2019

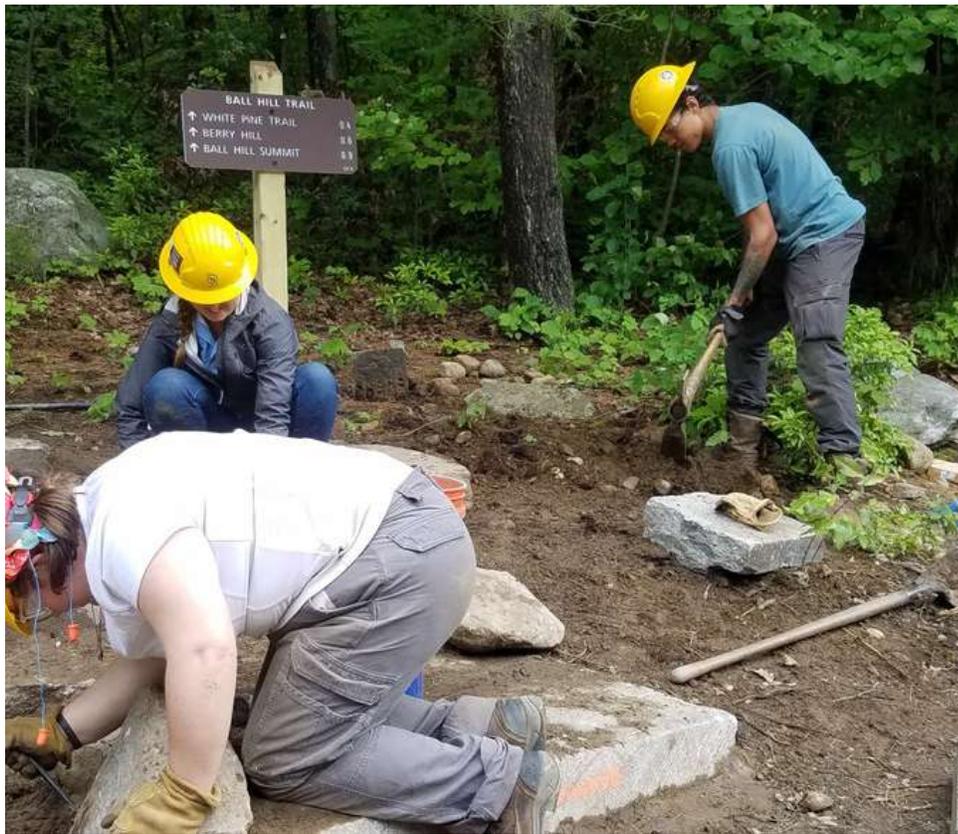
### Greylock Glenn 2 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Andrew Crowe, Kai Brown, Katie McGee, and Hanna Brooks built a stone staircase at the popular Pecks Falls trail. This 11 step stone staircase will prevent erosion and increase public access to the popular swimming hole and falls. Despite multiple injuries and illnesses during the project the team proudly completed the project in 10 days. The team quarried all of the stones used in the staircase on-site using a 2 ton grip hoist high-line and a lot of elbow grease!



### Outputs from Greylock Glenn

11 step stone staircase	17 ft
21 stone gargoyles	17 ft
Trail Impacted	0.1 miles



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Leominster #2, 6/4-6/13

### Leominster Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Lilly Haley, Chris Cornett, Emerson Jamieson, Katherine Perkoski, and Erin DuMontelle worked on installing 13 rock steps and 2 water bars at the beginning of the trail to make it more inviting and easier to use. This also helps to guide people onto the trail and makes it a flatter, more gradual surface to walk up. One of our days we spent volunteering at the North Face endurance race which was a good break from our hard work. In our off time we enjoyed swimming and uno.



### Outputs from Leominster:

Water bars	2
Rock steps	13
Rock Gargoyles	13



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #2, 6/4/19 - 6/13/19

### Nickerson Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Isaac Haas, Grace Sullivan, Emily Eitel, and Ryan Olson spent 10 days at Nickerson State park brushing and blazing trail. Some of the spots were incredibly overgrown and took many hours to clear. Passing hikers noted how much nicer the trail was without having to hike through brush! They had beautiful weather for most of their days, and enjoyed the scenery on the multiple pond loops they brushed. They persevered through flooded trails and fields of poison ivy and made an impact on more trail than they initially expected.



### Outputs from Nickerson:

Trail Brushed

1.1 Miles

Trail Blazed

3.2 Miles



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #3, 6/18-6/27

### Mt. Greylock at Deerhill Shelter Summary:

Katie McGee, Emily Eitel, Davis Toler, and Emerson Jamieson embarked on a hike into the backcountry to complete some rustic timber structures. The crew completed one earthen tent pad with timber retaining walls. Along with that, a trail to the water source at this camp, with a cribbing structure for erosion control was also constructed. This backpacker camp was enriched by the extra camping pad and also a clear trail to the water source. These structures also control the spread of impact by backpackers. With all the intricacies of rustic timber, the work was done very efficiently while allowing the members to learn the process of building timber retaining structures!



### Outputs from Mt. Greylock-Deerhill Shelter:

Constructed Earthen Tent Pad

100 sq. Ft.

Trail

106 ft.

Cribbing Structure on Trail

18 sq. Ft.



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 3, 6/18-6/27

### Greylock Glenn Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Danielle Huntress, Isaac Haas, Lilly Haley, Olivia Grady, and Aaron Maddocks. For this project, we cleared snowmobile corridor. Snowmobiles run in the winter when there is snow on the ground; as such, all we were worried about were the trees and other pieces of timber that the snow would not cover or flatten. This project was very sawyer and chainsaw heavy, so while our two sawyers were felling slightly bigger trees, our other three members would lop and bow saw smaller trees and shrubs. We also installed signs to designate the trail for snowmobiles. One challenge that we faced was the weather while we were out there; if it wasn't raining all day long, it was scorching hot, so we had to be aware of wet clothing and boots if it was raining, or not over exerting ourselves in the heat on the sunny days.



### Outputs from Greylock Glenn:

Clearing Corridor

2,909.5 ft

Sign Installation

19 signs



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 3, 6/18-6/27

### Mohawk Trail State Forest Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members Grace Sullivan, Erin DuMontelle, Rachel Rothe, Andrew Crowe, and Chris Cornett spent ten days working at Mohawk Trail State Forest. The first portion of the project the members completed five crib steps to make a 1.25-mile lookout trail more easily accessible. Drainage ditches were dug near the trailhead to remove water from the tread. Lastly, the crew made a combination of birdboxes and batboxes to install in Mohawk Trail State Forest, Savoy State Forest, and Kenneth Dubuque State Forest for a 26-acre overall impact.



### Outputs from Mohawk SF:

Crib Steps

1.25 miles

Drainage Ditches

1.25 miles

Birdboxes and Batboxes

26 acres



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 3, 6/18 - 6/27

### Mahican Mohawk Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Walter, Katie, Sam, Rayla, and Kai worked on a section of the Machian Mohawk trail that ran through Savoy Mountain State Forest. They worked on a variety of projects to make this trail easier to use, including the reconstruction of a stone staircase that had fallen apart and was overgrown with ferns. Much of the trail was very muddy, even after a couple of days of sunshine, so the team built ten bog bridges to make transversal easier and have less boots stuck in the mud.



### Outputs from Mahican Mohawk:

Bog Bridges	80 ft
Stones Set	17
Blazing	2.5 miles
Water Bars constructed/Service	6
Gargoyles Set	18



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Leominster #3, 6/18 - 6/27

### Leominster #3 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Hanna Brooks, Ryan Olson, Leah Wildeman, and Doug Rouse standing on their completed 4 step granite staircase. This staircase helps hikers, bikers, and others easily maneuver the water bar at the top of the hill. Additionally, the group tore out two older drainage systems and replaced them with more steps; as well as rebuilding an old kiosk. The group learned the importance of the grip hoist, communication, and sunny days!



### Outputs from Leominster #3:

Rock steps	6
Water bars removed	2
Kiosks rebuilt	1



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 4, 7/9/19 - 7/18/19

### KLT @ Holyoke Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Andrew Crowe, Ryan Olsen, Katherine Perkoski, Rachel Rothe, and Davis Toler worked on installing 47 directional signs along the Mt. Holyoke Range. These signs were to assist hikers and day use travelers orient themselves within in the park and know which trails went where. 24 sign posts needed to be hiked out and installed as well. The group traveled over roughly 25 miles in a ten day span. Though hot and wet, the crew managed to complete the task in a timely fashion. For fun, we enjoyed hiking to the most beautiful views of the range and dipping in the small pond by our campsite.



### Outputs from Hitch:

Signs Installed	47
Miles of Trail Impacted	11.8



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #4, July 9th to July 18th

### Rollstone Hills 1 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Chris Cortnett, Aaron Maddocks, Grace Sullivan, Hannah Putnam, and Isaac Haas. This project was the first out of 7 more hitches to be done at Rollstone Hills over the course of 2 conservation seasons. Our crew was not only the first to arrive but also the first to start doing the majority of the trail work needed. The trail work was mostly drainage related but also included touching up trail that was dug out by an excavator. All in all, the Hitch went by smoothly as there were no known internal conflicts.



### Outputs from Rollstone Hills:

Dug out water bars	205.5 feet
Installing water bars	10 water bars installed
Dug a drainage trench	178.5 feet
Spread wood chips	306 feet
Cleaned/touching up the trail	2000 feet



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #4, 7/9-7/18

### Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Kai Brown, Emily Eitel, Leah Wildeman, and Lily Haley spent 10 days at the Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary in Boylston Massachusetts. At this sanctuary the beavers had flooded a section of the trail making it very difficult to access. For this hitch the group worked together to brush the trail back and help construct bridges to walk through the boggy area. Concrete blocks and lumber were carried out to the worksite and the group learned a lot about bridge construction and carpentry!



### Outputs from Summer Star:

Trail Brushed	400ft
---------------	-------

Bridges Constructed	45ft
---------------------	------

--	--



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #4, July 9th-18th

### Wachusett Bi-Centennial Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members (from right to left) McGee, Erin, Doug, Sam. The crew spent their hitch on Mt. Wachusett. The Bi-Centennial trail is no stranger to SCA crews, the crew was continuing work of many crews past. The crew improved the stability of the tread and put culverts to help with the drainage so that hikers could pass without leaving a trace. The crew also had the pleasure of beginning the Bi-Centennial's ascent up the mountain and installed 8 stone steps. But there are many more steps for SCA crews to put install in the future!



### Outputs from Wachusett:

Stone Steps

8 Steps

Turnpike Trail

40ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #4, July 9th-18th

### Wachusett Reservoir Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members (from right to left) Emerson Jamieson, Olivia Grady, Hanna Brooks, Walter Commins. Poutwater Pond is the only National Nature Preserve currently in Massachusetts. It consists of the pond itself, which is highly acidic, and a floating mat of vegetation which covers the perimeter of the pond. 20 years ago, a floating bog walkway was implemented to facilitate the study of the bog and its unique traits. The crew restored the walkway, which had sunk into the bog, while also filling any gaps in the walkway. In doing so, future studies of the bog and its wildlife will not disturb the surrounding nature. In addition, the crew swept neighboring fields and pulled invasive species such as Mile-a-Minute vine and Canada Thistle.



### Outputs from Wachusett Reservoir:

Bog walk restoration

350 ft

Brushing

1.5 miles

Invasive plant species removal

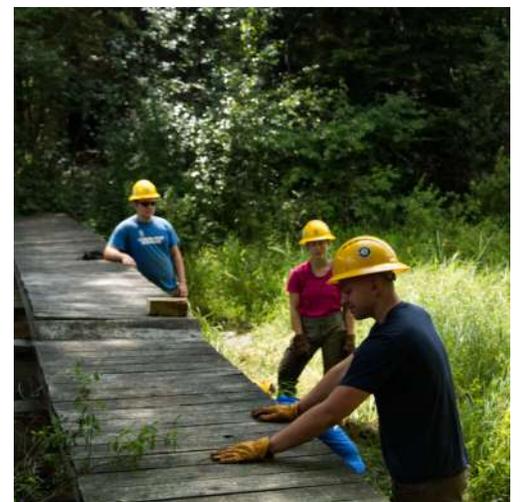
11.5 Acres



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #5, 7/22-8/1

### Clarksburg State Park Summary:

Chris Cornett led a SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps composed of Andy Crowe, Olivia Grady, Sam Spence, and Emily Eitel. The crew worked to repair an existing boardwalk whose structural integrity had been compromised. They also worked to install new puncheon. They accomplished these tasks using a combination of power and hand tools. This work will make the area more enjoyable, more accessible, and more sustainable to park visitors.



### Outputs from Clarksburg:

Puncheon Constructed	30ft
Boardwalk Repaired	50ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 5, 7/23-8/1/19

### Purgatory Chasm Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Ryan Olsen, Katie McGee, Lilly Haley, Walter Commins, and Rayla Putnam spent their fifth hitch building a stone culvert by the entrance of Purgatory Chasm State Reservation. There have been drainage problems in this area for years and the most recent plastic culvert was dislodged by frost heaves, creating a need for a more durable structure. The team persevered through the heat waves by playing silly games, supporting each other, and communicating clearly while moving all these rocks!



### Outputs from Purgatory Chasm:

Stone Culvert	40 ft
Base Stones Set	13
Gargoyles Set	34
Stone Bridge Set	1



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #5, 7/22-8/1

### Quabbin Reservoir Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members Erin Dumontelle, Aaron Maddocks and Leah Wildeman were led by crew leader Davis Toler in an extensive corridor project at Quabbin Reservoir. The crew utilized a mixture of hand and power tools to clear re-establish corridor and make the trails more inviting and accessible to the public. The crew also worked to improve and maintain blazing throughout the park.



### Outputs from Quabbin:

Corridor Clearing	4,000ft
Trail Blazing	3,200ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #5, 7/23 - 8/1 Rollstone Hill Pt. II Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Danielle Huntress, Grace Sullivan, Emerson Jamieson, Doug Rouse, and Kai Brown. For this hitch, our crew built a new trail and created several artificial grade reversals within that trail. We also assisted an excavator in setting a few large stone monoliths at the trailhead to designate the trail. This trail is important to the town of Fitchburg because it had previously been a trail that was used by the quarrying industry when Rollstone Hill was an active quarry. This new trail is part of the Rock Walk plan that is meant to take hikers back in time to when Fitchburg was a booming city thanks to that rock quarry at the top of Rollstone Hill.



### Outputs from Rollstone Hill Pt. II:

New Trail

1087 ft

Artificial Grade Reversals

17 dips

Stone Monolith Trail Markers

3 stones



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 5 July 23-August 1

**Wachusett Mountain Bi-Centennial Summary:**  
SCA Massachusetts's AmeriCorps members Rachel Rothe, Isaac Haas, Hanna Brooks, and Kathryn Perkowski spent the last ten days working on the Bi-Centennial Trail at Wachusett Mountain State Park. Their main focus was on a 30 foot section of trail that they lined with nearly 40 gargoyles, filled with rock and soil, and added two stone stairs that made the hike more accessible and prevents the destruction of exposed tree roots. They also added a new water bar to assist drainage and fixed up a preexisting water bar. The Bi-Centennial Trail is very popular and their efforts were very appreciated by the park visitors.



Outputs from Wachusett Mountain Bi-Centennial:

Stone Steps	2
Gargoyles	40
Back Fill of Rocks for Tread Maintenance	1026 feet
Water Bars Created	1
Water Bars Fixed	1



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch # 6, 8/6/19-8/15/19

### Freetown Fall River State Forest Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Katie Perkoski, Leah Wildeman, Grace Sullivan, Katie McGee and Olivia Grady. The members spent 3 and a half days building 7 bridges and brushing the Three Bridges Trail. The bridges covered the muddy and mucky sections of trail making it easier to pass through and lessening the area of impact. Members learned to design the most sustainable and practical bridges for the area. The all female crew hit many bumps in the road, but with efficiency and lots of laughs, did great work in the given time.



### Outputs from Freetown:

Brushing Three Bridges Trail

.3 miles

Building 7 bridges on Three Bridges Trail

52 ft.



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #6 08/06-08/15

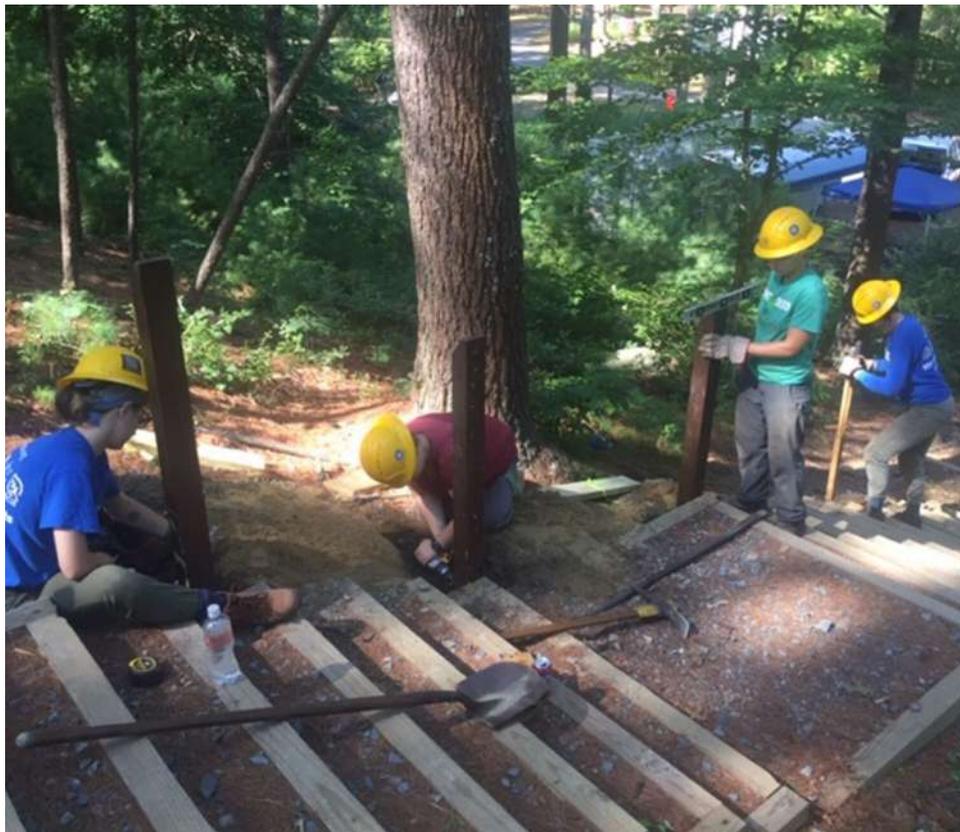
### Leominster Project Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Rachel Rothe, Ryan Olsen, and Aaron Maddocks came to Leominster State Forest to build a turnpike between the overflow parking lot and the normal parking lot for Crow Hills Pond. The turnpike is important as it provides easier access for people with disabilities. It also acts as drainage to divert water from the oncoming hillside towards future culverts. This required us to dig out trenches to insert 4 foot long slabs into the ground. These slabs were brought up via rigging system.



### Outputs from Leominster:

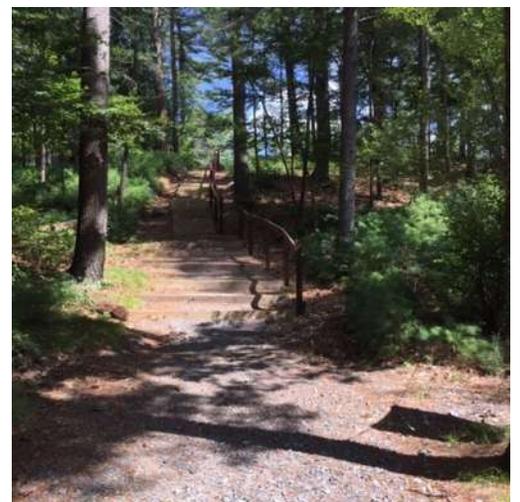
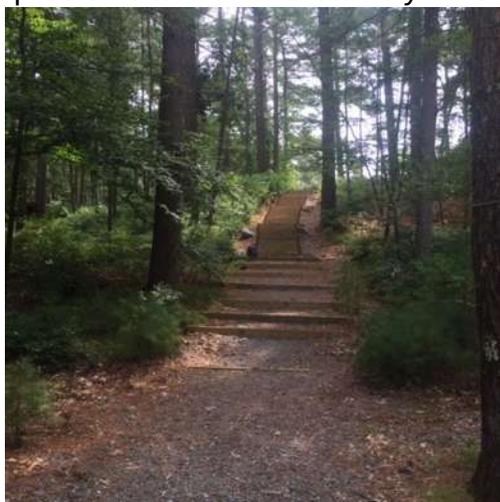
Trench Dug	40 feet 2 inches
Slabs Placed	15
Slabs Moved	23
Pounds of Crush Used	200
Area raked/tamped	10 feet



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #6, 8/6/19-8/15/19

### Massasoit State Park Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Katie Perkoski, Olivia Grady, Leah Wildeman, Katie McGee and Grace Sullivan. Massasoit State Park is located in Taunton, MA on the south shore of Boston. The members this year added a railing to a staircase that a crew had built the previous summer. The railing makes the staircase more accessible and easier to traverse, especially at the steeper top section. The railing spans 100 feet and took 5 days to complete. Most members were new to carpentry and learned to troubleshoot carpentry-related problems and think creatively. The team had a blast and worked well together.



### Outputs from Hitch 6:

Brushing around staircase	100 ft.
---------------------------	---------

Building a railing for staircase	100 ft.
----------------------------------	---------



SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 6, 08/06/19-08/16/19

Rollstone Hills #3 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Erin DuMontelle, Emily Eitel, Samuel Spence, Rayla Putnam, and Hanna Brooks completed a 10-day hitch project that consisted of setting gargoyles along the lower half of the Rock Walk Trail. Placing gargoyles helps guide visitors through the trail to the summit of Rollstone Hill with visual appeal. Through several high line systems and many rock flips later, 64 gargoyles lined the trail. The crew learned about the hardships of rock work prioritization but successfully managed to get the job done. With an 85-year old grip hoist volunteer and lots of laughter, the crew had a lot of fun completing the project.



Outputs from Rollstone Hill:



Gargoyle structures set 64





## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 6, 8/6/19 - 8/15/19

### Middlesex Fells Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Walter Commins, Lily Haley, Andrew Crowe, and Doug Rouse, built pull-offs along an existing boardwalk in the Sheepfold Dog Park of the Middlesex Fells Reservation. The purpose of this project was to build platforms that users of the boardwalk could use to pull-off onto when bikes were approaching. We used a plethora of carpentry tools and techniques. The team had to develop the blueprint and materials list for the project. The project went smooth and we met many dogs along the way.



### Outputs from Middlesex Fells:



Boardwalk repair and development	540ft
----------------------------------	-------





## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #6 August 6th-15th

### Wompatuck State Park Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members (from right to left) Kai Brown, Davis Toler, Emerson Jamieson, Chris Cornett, Isaac Haas. Wompatuck State Park is located in Hingham, MA, just south of Boston. This project consisted of the removal of an old boardwalk, and the construction of a new one. The new boardwalk is 92 ft, 8 inches taller, and uses boards perpendicular to the stringers. The crew hiked their lumber out, created level cribbing, added stringers and then boards. The total bridge construction spanned 6 days. For many it was their first carpentry project outside of training, thus creating an environment to learn and expand their knowledge.



### Outputs from Wompatuck:

Construction of new boardwalk	92 ft long
-------------------------------	------------

Demolition of former boardwalk	91 ft long
--------------------------------	------------



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 7, 8/20/19 - 8/29/19

### Ashland Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Isaac Haas, Ryan Olson, Grace Sullivan, Emily Eitel, and Walter Commins spent 10 days at Ashland state park working on ramps to make a future bridge ADA accessible. One ramp required building cribbing to fill with gravel, and the other was a more temporary boardwalk style ramp. The members spent long, satisfying days in the sun next to the water, doing lots of carpentry work to produce these ramps. They enjoyed the view and the wildlife which included a blue heron, a muskrat, a northern water snake, and, of course, the many dogs that walked by.



### Outputs from Ashland:

Cribbing and fill ramp 1

240 square ft.

Boardwalk ramp 2

96 square ft.



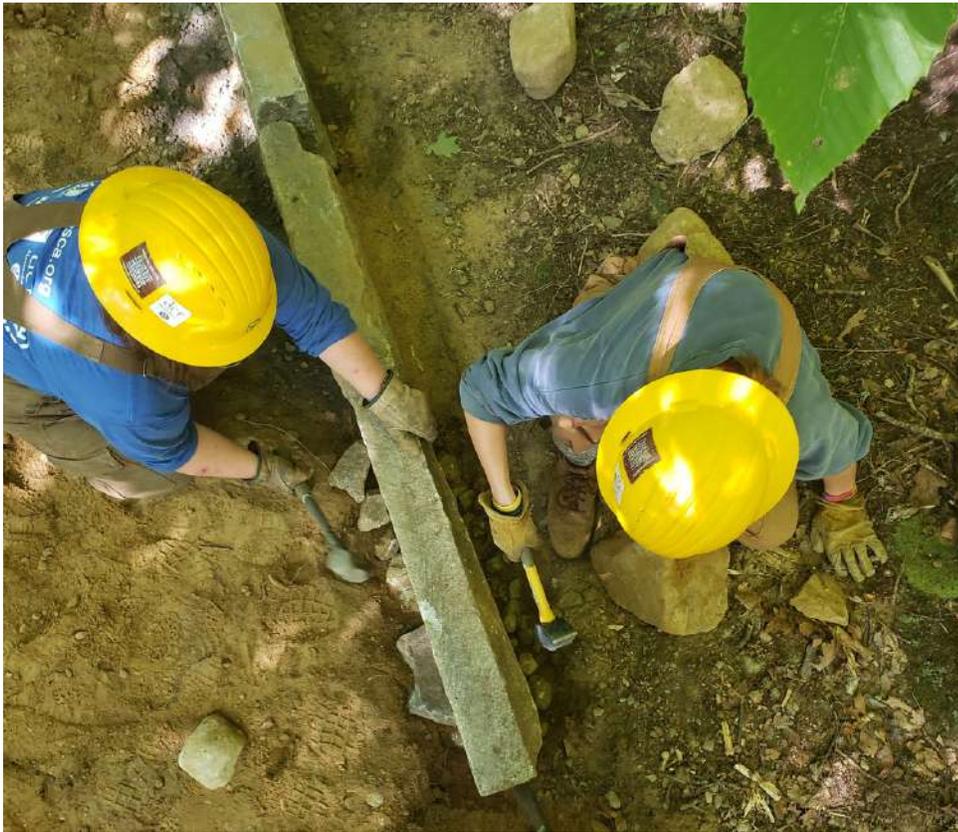
## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 7, 8/20-8/29 Blue Hills Reservation: Steps, Bridges and Rails

This hitch team was comprised of Doug Rouse, Rayla Putnam, Olivia Grady, Rachel Rothe and Davis Toler. Our time was divided between installing split-rail fencing, a stone staircase, a decorative (yet functional) rock wall and two small bridges. It was super cool being in an important natural area while being only 7 miles from downtown Boston. The heavily-used park will definitely benefit from the new features we installed!



### Outputs from Blue Hills:

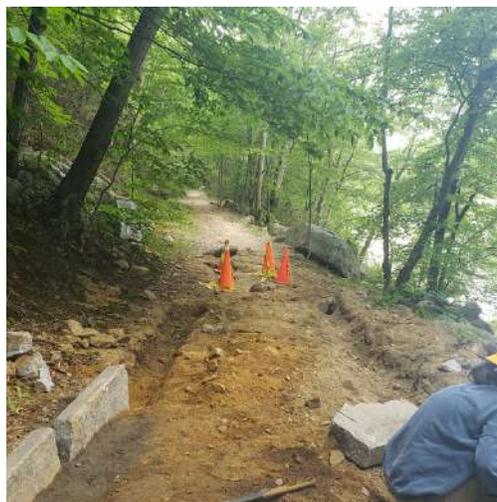
Split Rail	40 ft
Stone Staircase	5 steps
Stone wall	10 ft
Bridges	20 ft



SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: [Hitch 7], [8/20 - 8/27]

Leominster Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Sam, Dani, Leah, and James served ten days of service at Leominster State Forest. During their time there they continued to work on building a turnpike on the Wolf Rock trail. This project is important because it created a more accessible tread for people to use. During their off time the crew would swim in the pond and play Catan.



Outputs from Leominster

Turnpike

27 ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #8 August 20th-29th

### Middlesex Fells Summary:

Chris Cornett led a SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps composed of Lilly Haley, Katherine Perkoski, and Erin DuMontelle. The crew worked to install new boardwalk and new bridges. They accomplished these tasks using a combination of power and hand tools. This work will make the area more enjoyable, more accessible, and more sustainable to park visitors.



### Outputs from Middlesex Fells:

Construction of new Boardwalk	60ft
Construction of new Bridge	20ft



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 7, Aug 19-29, 2019

### Rollstone Hills 4 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Katie McGee, Kai Brown, Aaron Maddocks, Hanna Brooks and Andy Crowe completed this years work on the Rock Walk Trail for the city of Fitchburg. This new trail is an multi-year project with the city to create a hiking destination from the heart of the town square to the top of the quarry. During this hitch they completed two stone brides and lined the lowest part of the trail with stone gargoyles. The team enjoyed a dinner together with members of the Rock Walk project board at a local restaurant!



### Outputs from Rollstone Hill 4

2 Stone Bridges	12 ft
33 Stone Gargoyles	80 ft



SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #8, 9/3-9/12/19

Breakheart Reservation Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members Grace Sullivan, Chris Cornett, Rayla Putnam, and Aaron Maddochs spent ten days working at Breakheart Reservation in Saugus, MA. The members worked to make the Rhododendron Grove safer and more easily accessible. The first portion of the project was spent brushing .25 miles of trail within the Grove. The members then completed two bog bridges, one twenty-foot long and the other ten-foot long. Lastly, a new path was created to connect the Grove to the Saugus River Trail, ultimately impacting 2 miles of trail.



Outputs from Leominster State Forest:

Rhododendron Grove Bog Bridges (2) 20 feet & 10 feet

Rhododendron Grove Brushing .25 miles cleared

Connecting Trail Between Rhododendron Grove and Saugus River Trail 150 feet



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: 9/3/19-9/20/19

### Hatfield Open Spaces Summary:

SCA Massachusetts members Lilly Haley, Sam Spence, Danielle Huntress, Ryan Olson, Rachel Rothe along with Davis Toler, Erin DuMontelle, Emerson Jamieson, Andrew Crowe, and Walter Commins worked at White Rock Trail in Hatfield. Over the course of 15 days the groups helped to make the steep incline of the trail easier for hikers by installing rustic timber steps. They also added drainage ditches where necessary and made nearly 90 ft of new trail. Overall the crews made the trail more accessible for people looking to enjoy the view the trail has to offer.



### Outputs from Hatfield:

Rustic timber check steps

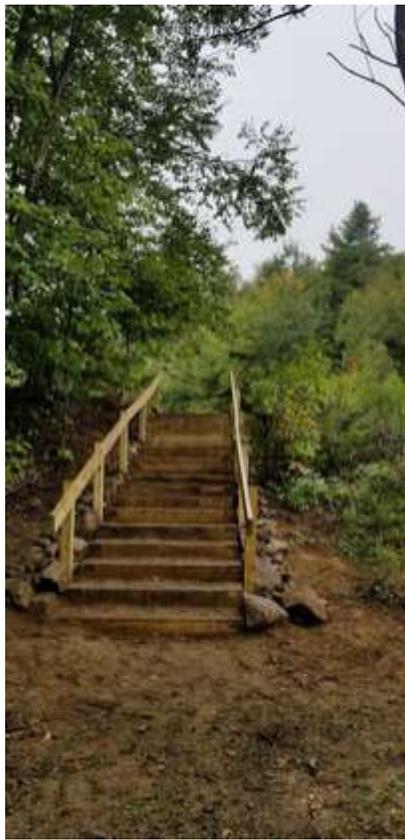
20+Steps impacting 1360ft

New trail

89 ft

Drainage Dips

4



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps

### Hawley Hitch, 9/3-9/12 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members Walter Commins, Andrew Crowe, Hanna Brooks, and Danielle Huntress stayed at Hawley, their home base in Kenneth Dubuque State Forest. They spent ten days removing an old staircase and planning and building a new crib step staircase. Members built eighteen steps in total, along with railing on both sides, ensuring the amount of falling and slipping in winter time is minimal.



### Outputs from Spring Hitch:

Crib Steps Installed

18



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch 8, 9/3/19 - 9/12/19

### Mt. Everett Summary:



SCA Massachusetts members Erin DuMontelle, Isaac Haas, Katherine McGee, Sam Spence, and Doug Rouse completed a 10-day hitch split between Mt. Everett State Reservation and Mt. Washington State Reservation. Their project at the prior included building a bridge near beginning of the "Heart Healthy" Guilder Pond Loop Trail. This replaced the old log bridge and therefore opened up the trail for better accessibility. The crew also lopped and added in new signs to the area, one in particular that is part of the Appalachian Trail.



### Outputs from Mt. Everett:

Building the Bridge

64 sqft bridge giving access to a mile of trail

Lopping around the Guilder Loop Pond

Same mile loop as the brigde project

Installing new signage

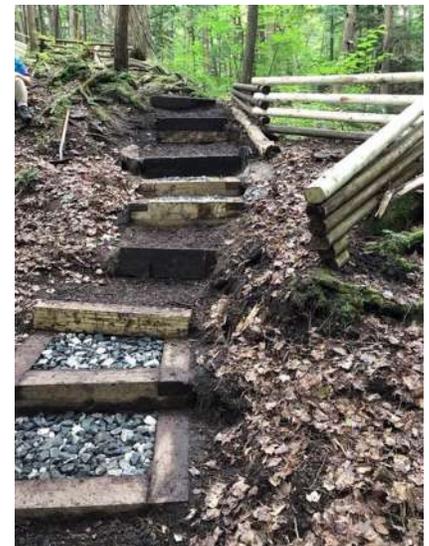
Same mile loop and 1 mile on the AT



## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: [Hitch 8], [9/3-9/12]

### Tannery Falls Summary:

Emily Eitel, Rachel Rothe, Leah Wildeman, Kai Brown and Lilly Haley finished a 10 day hitch in Savoy Mountain State Forest. This project was incredibly important to the employees and users of this forest. This specific trail project is part of a long term plan to fix up the Tannery Falls trail. The work that this crew did improved excessibility to Tannery Falls. The crew built 8 box steps on a steep, muddy section of trail. The crew definitely got daily opportunities to work together and trouble shoot because there were many boulders in the way of where the steps were to go.



### Outputs from [Tannery Falls]:



Box steps	8 steps, 30 ft.
-----------	-----------------





## SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps

### Callahan Hitch, 9/16-9/20 Summary:

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps members Kai Brown, Leah Wildeman, Emily Eitel, Hanna Brooks, and Chris Cornett traveled to Callahan State Park in Framingham MA to do service for Hitch 9. The crew installed numbered signage around the park to help first responders and DCR employees locate members of the public who are lost or in need of help. In total the crew installed 47 signs and had lots of fun hiking around the park and help making the park safer for everyone.



### Outputs from Spring Hitch:

Signs Installed

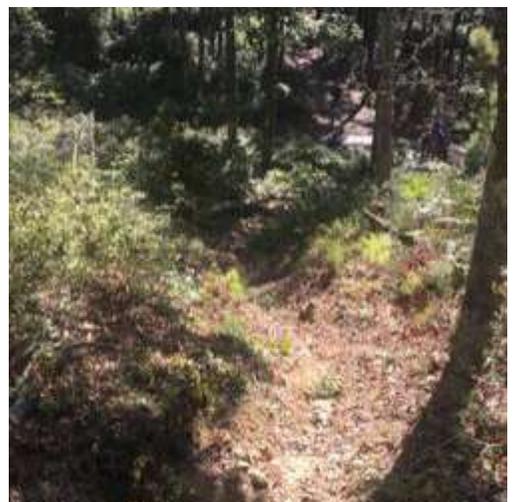
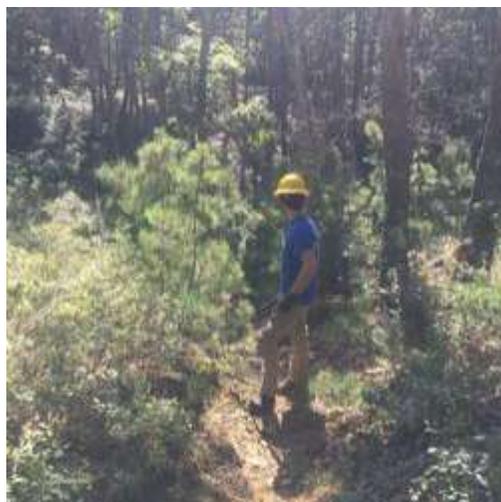
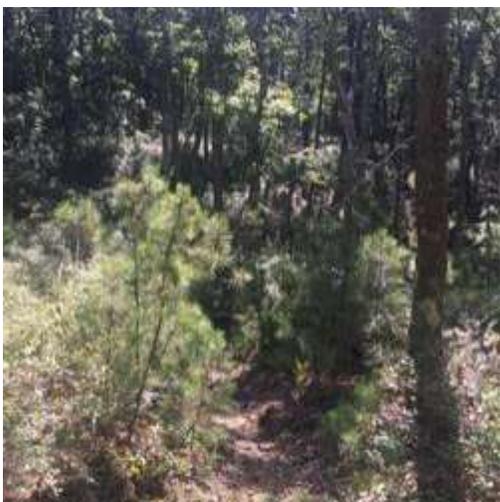
47



**SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps: Hitch #9, 9/16/19-9/20/19**

**Shawme-Crowell Summary:**

SCA Massachusetts members Katherine Perkoski, Isaac Haas, Grace Sullivan and Rayla Putnam (from left to right). This team worked to brush 6 combined miles of trail with another crew to make the trails more accessible and easier to use. Trails were brushed, dead limbs were removed and downed timber was taken off the trail. It was a fun hitch with beautiful weather and lunches were eaten in one of the parks beautiful meadows. The crew worked very well together and did some great work!



**Outputs from Shawme-Crowell :**

Brushing Trail and Fixing Corridor 3 miles