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Foundation names 1st conservation team members

Contributed By: Rich Cogen | Ohio River Foundation

Meaningful summer jobs for high school students are hard to come by. But this summer, expanding on its popular education programs and burgeoning restoration work, Ohio River Foundation has selected the high school crew members of the first Youth Conservation Team program in the entire eight-state Ohio River Watershed.

The first Youth Conservation Team crew members, selected from 55 high school applicants: Tony Losekamp (McNicholas), Noah Yasgur (Sycamore), Hailey Rolfes (William Henry Harrison), Taylor Batty (Madeira), Andrew Uetrecht (Gamble Montessori), BenPoehmann (Roger Bacon), Dylan Calahan (Clark Montessori), Dawn Thomas (St. Ursula), Caroline Dill (McNicholas), Quinn Moore (Fayetteville-Perry).

Modeled after successful programs in other parts of the country, this summer Youth Conservation Teams will perform habitat stewardship work in Hamilton and Clermont Counties. Potential projects include planting trees and shrubs along streams; removing winter sand from ditches, culverts, and settling basins; rock lining ditches and culverts, and installing water bars and other diversions to direct water from dirt roads and paths to vegetated areas.


"This is an exciting employment and learning opportunity for high school students," said Rich Cogen, Executive Director, Ohio River Foundation. "The students will also spend time with scientists and experts from the natural resource and academic fields for in-depth learning about habitat protection."

Inaugural program partners and beneficiaries are Hamilton and Clermont County Park Districts. This program is being funded in part by grants from the Robert H. Reakirt Foundation, PNC Bank, Trustee, and The Greater Cincinnati Foundation.

Details and further program information are at www.ohioriverfdn.org. To support this program current funding partners require corporate and citizen matching support. For you or your company to help support this program, call Rich Cogen, Ohio River Foundation at 513-460-3365.

Now in its eleventh year, the non-profit Ohio River Foundation (ORF), through its education and conservation activities, assists communities along the river and throughout the 200,000 sq. mile watershed with protecting water quality and improving public awareness of the importance of the natural environment in the Ohio River watershed.

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