

DIVISION OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION

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Figure 17.1. This insignia was ubiquitous in the 1930's at CCC projects nationwide.



Figure 17.2. Hard labor was commonplace with many CCC projects in the 1930's.

CCC—THE ALPHA YOUTH CONSERVATION WORK PROGRAM

The origins of the Division of Civilian Conservation (DCC) in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources date to 2 July 1932 when the idea of programs for youth conservation work had its genesis in Chicago, Illinois. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic nominee for President, announced his plans, if elected in November, to give employment to young men through projects of land and forest restoration. Soon after President Roosevelt's inauguration on 4 March 1933, Congress passed Senate Bill 598, and Roosevelt signed it into law on 31 March 1933, thereby creating the highly successful, federal Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The first young man joined the Corps on 7 April 1933, just 34 days following the President's inauguration.

During the economic depression of the 1930's, the CCC gave hope to millions of despairing youth who wanted to work. Many monuments attest to the worthiness of this innovative program, often referred to as "Roosevelt's Tree Army" (Fig 17.1). Trees were planted, lakes were built, fire trails and roads were constructed (Fig 17.2), wildlife habitat was developed, and soil conservation projects were completed. These were just a few of the many worthwhile conservation projects completed throughout the nation. The

first CCC camp in Ohio was established in Scioto Trail State Forest in May 1933 under the administration of the Division of Forestry of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster (see Chapter 7). During its heyday, there were 26 CCC Camps in Ohio administered by the Division of Forestry, twelve of which were soon transferred to the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to perform work on soil erosion control. The rapid implementation of the program often required the use of tents for housing until barracks could be constructed (Fig 17.3). The start of World War II in 1941 signaled the end of CCC in 1942. The last CCC camp in Ohio closed on 30 June 1942. Following termination of CCC, its facilities were used for many useful purposes including the housing of honor prison inmates working on forestry projects prior to being paroled.

The legacy of CCC is more than the valuable natural resources work that was performed. The program ignited a public consciousness for responsible stewardship of our natural resources. It brought eligible youths together from all walks of life and conditioned many of them to bear the burdens and the sacrifices later required during World War II. It provided an opportunity for technical resource personnel to develop their skills in supervising CCC members in conservation activities. CCC unintentionally provided the Armed Forces with a training exercise second to none. The military personnel processed youth into the Corps, providing housing, transportation, food, clothing, communications, and many other services. This exercise conditioned the Armed Forces for their ultimate responsibility of providing necessities and leadership for 13 million troops during World War II.

In 1983, Hershel S. Atzenhofer, an Ohio resident who had been a CCC member in California, summarized the program as follows:

CCC, politically inspired and dedicated to the economic betterment of Corps members, and the enhancement of our natural resources heritage, is an enshrined legacy...The benefits of the social mix of the Corps members and their sweat and toil in behalf of conservation did not stop with their last paycheck (\$8.00 for Corps members, \$22.00 to family monthly)...The monuments created under circumstances without frills are

everlasting examples...The spirit of adventure of the Corps members during adversity is a priceless heritage.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

The economic and social changes experienced by the national population after World War II were very dramatic. Full employment during World War II was accompanied by a shift in population from rural to metropolitan areas, and following the war came the Baby Boom. Passage of the Full Employment Act in 1946, under President Harry S. Truman's administration, and the Korean War's demand for troops and defense workers in the 1950's kept the labor force on an even keel. Youth employment presented no major concern during the 1950's and the adult labor force was fully occupied.

Baby Boomers in their teens during the 1960's, however, had idle time on their hands, often without adult supervision. The family structure had changed to an ever-increasing number of single heads of households with more people crowded into the cities, and there were increasing numbers of youths whose earning power contributed to the



Figure 17.3. Camp Pike typified the numerous CCC camps throughout the nation in the 1930's. This site is now occupied by Pike Lake State Park in Pike County.

1949-1989

family income. School dropouts increased and the number of youths without skills and schooling increased.

One of the federal government's goals under President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration was full employment for adults and part-time work experience for certain categories of youth. Many federally funded programs were implemented to employ the handicapped, disadvantaged, and minorities. Youngsters 14 years and older in these categories were provided part-time hands-on work, in and out of school. Evaluations to determine the social and economic value of residential work camps for eligible youths during the summer months showed that youth would be served better at less expense if they were provided work experience in their local communities.

More leisure time for the population during the 1960's increased the demand for quality recreation facilities. The concern for a quality environment became a crusade, demanding responsible stewardship of the nation's land, water, and air. ODNR officials desiring to provide work opportunities for youth in environmental enhancement, attempted to create an Ohio summer youth conservation corps during the early 1970's. A number of plans modeled after the "Wisconsin Program" were submitted to ODNR Director Nye. Dan Atzenhoefer and Robert Redett of ODNR spent a week in Wisconsin studying its Summer Youth Conservation Corps which had operated since 1962. An evaluation was made on the use of mobile trailers and other mobile residential structures, and study was made on the feasibility of renovating existing ODNR facilities previously used by the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Department of Youth Services.

Before approval was given to any of the recommended plans in Ohio, forces nationwide began to surface, and legislative action in Congress was in the final stage to create a national youth corps. Families whose youngsters did not qualify for benefits of the federally funded youth work programs urged Congress to provide a program which would permit more youth of high school age to share in the benefits of an environmental work/learn/earn/share summer program. A number of national conservation groups and a large segment of the public supported the

idea. Another force was the staunch legion of former CCC members who viewed their experience and accomplishments in the 1930's as a solution to two needs — unemployed youth and environmental enhancement.

Senator Henry Jackson of the State of Washington on 18 February 1969 introduced Senate Bill 1076 which would create and place a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the United States Departments of Agriculture and Interior (USDA and USDI). Congress passed and President Richard M. Nixon signed the legislation into law on 13 August 1970, thereafter known as Public Law 91-378. It had three main objectives:

- 1) To provide gainful summer employment for youth ages 15 through 18.
- 2) To provide an opportunity for youth to understand and appreciate our nation's environment and natural heritage.
- 3) To further the development and maintenance of the natural resources of the United States.

During the pilot years of 1971-1973, the program operated only at federal installations, but states received some funding in 1974 to administer YCC camps at state and local facilities. Funding increased over the years until the funding was terminated at the end of 1981.

ACTIVITIES OF THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, 1971-1981

The first YCC camp in Ohio, known as Little Muskingum, was established for male residents at Marietta in 1971. It was operated by the United States Forest Service (USFS) on the Wayne National Forest. In 1972, federal operations expanded and another resident camp was established at the Hebron National Fish Hatchery of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Corps members for this camp were housed and fed at Denison University in Granville. The Little Muskingum Camp was transferred to Monroe County and operated there from 1972-1977 when it was transferred back to Washington

County until 1981. All operations after 1971 were coeducational.

Federal funds became available to the states in 1974. However, in 1972, the Secretaries of USDA and USDI communicated with Governor John J. Gilligan to determine Ohio's desire

to participate in the YCC Program, the availability of facilities, funding, and local agency responsibility. The Governor proposed a joint responsibility between ODNR and the Ohio Office of Economic Opportunity, but ODNR

Director Nye and former Congressman Fred Wampler, then an ODNR staff member, convinced Governor Gilligan that ODNR was the logical agency to administer YCC. On 13 February 1973, ODNR Director Nye informed USDA that Dan R. Atzenhoefer, Chief of Manpower for ODNR, would be the official recruiter and manager of the YCC Program in Ohio.

Thorough planning and excellent working relationships with federal officials enabled Ohio in 1974 to be the first state in the nation to be approved to receive a federal grant (\$146,000) to operate two resident YCC camps at renovated facilities at Shawnee and Zaleski State Forests. Each camp had the capability of housing and feeding 60 youths and staff.

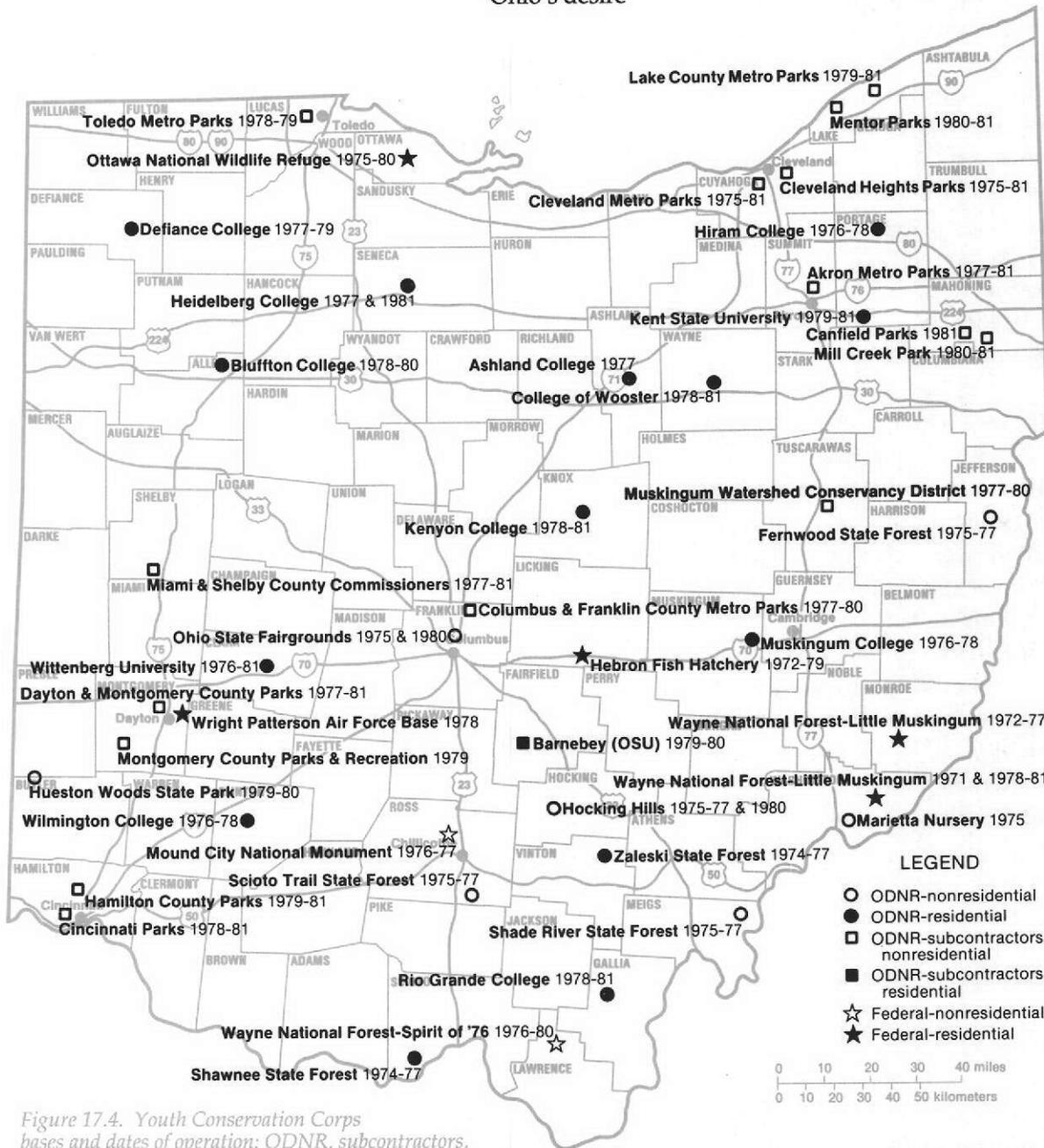


Figure 17.4. Youth Conservation Corps bases and dates of operation: ODNR, subcontractors, and federal—1971-1981.

1949-1989

Throughout the life of the program, all enrollments were on a four-week schedule in order to provide opportunity for the maximum number of youths to participate. The 1974 YCC Program enjoyed outstanding success and attracted national attention. The Ohio YCC was administered by ODNR's Office of Employee Services from 1974 through 1977, and was transferred to the Office of Civilian Conservation upon formation of that unit in 1977. YCC remained there until terminated due to lack of federal funds at the end of the 1981 program year.

YCC was unique because of the random selection of participants and the required activities to develop environmental awareness. During the eleven years the YCC Program operated in Ohio, over 10,000 youths participated in 41 camps statewide (Fig 17.4). During later years, participants were randomly selected nationally by a computer processing of applications received from public, private, and parochial schools. Youths had the opportunity to indicate their preference for resident or nonresident camps. They received the minimum wage for 32 hours per week and participated in eight hours of environmental education (Fig 17.5) for which they received one high school credit if in a resident camp, and one-half credit if in a nonresident camp. A certified teacher on the camp staff was responsible for conducting environmental education as outlined in a special text covering the field of resource management. Those in residential camps received food and lodging for a minimal cost. ODNR was the recruiting agency for federal, State, and State-subcontracted camps throughout the life of the program.

States received federal funding through a matching formula. In 1974, the formula was 50 percent federal and 50 percent state; thereafter, it was 80 percent federal and 20 percent state. Ohio received federal grants totaling \$6,093,000 from 1974-1981. As federal funding increased, additional camps were developed. Colleges and universities strategically located throughout the state were contracted to provide lodging and food for resident campers. Nonresident camps were established on State-owned facilities. Later, as funds became available, camp operations were subcontracted with county and metropolitan parks,

conservancy districts, and The Ohio State University. Subcontracting with local units of government enabled the program to be built into the community, thereby enlarging its base of support. Subcontracting agencies were obligated to comply with requirements of paying minimum wage, providing Workers' Compensation, and providing the required environmental education. Every expansion and operational adjustment enhanced the flavor and the effectiveness of YCC.

The following local units of government subcontracted for YCC operations:

- Akron Metropolitan Park District
- Cincinnati Park Board
- City of Canfield, Parks
- City of Cleveland Heights, Parks and Recreation
- Cleveland Metropolitan Park District
- Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District
- Dayton-Montgomery County Park District
- Hamilton County Park District
- Lake County Metropolitan Park District
- Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area
- Miami and Shelby County Commissioners
- Mill Creek Park District, Youngstown
- Montgomery County, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District
- The Ohio State University College of Agriculture and Home Economics, School of Natural Resources



Figure 17.5. Development of environmental awareness was a requirement of all YCC participants. Warren Wells, naturalist of the Hamilton County Park District, shared his expertise with YCC members for several years in the 1970's.

Figure 17.6. In 1981, this YCC crew from Camp Heidelberg installed signs on the interpretive trails at Riverbend Recreation Area in Hancock Park District.



Figure 17.7. Timber stand improvement was an important aspect of YCC programs in the 1970's.



Figure 17.8. YCC participants were actively involved in celebrating the nation's 200th birthday at the Ohio State Fair on YCC Day in 1976.



Contracting with colleges and universities provided a setting which created an awareness for learning. Nonresidential operations subcontracted with environmentally concerned agencies gave the community a firsthand view of the new and promising generation—the leaders of tomorrow. The success and lasting value of the YCC Program in Ohio is evidenced by the thousands of youths who participated in

it, their parents, the staff, and the supporting agencies. The program's acceptance in local communities where camps were located was excellent. Media throughout the state gave YCC positive and dignified coverage and the program received many citations. The Ohio General Assembly commended the program by passing Senate Joint Resolution No. 24 in 1977. In 1978, ODNR received the prestigious and coveted George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for the excellence of YCC (see Plate 19). Key staff members were selected to serve on national task forces to refine the YCC Program nationwide. YCC provided work experience which spanned the spectrum of environmental enhancement. After work hours, youths were provided opportunities to develop social skills and to enrich their appreciation of home, community, and national responsibilities.

Because of their age, YCC participants were prohibited from using certain kinds of tools, and hand tools were the vogue. Participants developed and maintained hundreds of miles of trails throughout the state (Fig 17.6) including the Buckeye Trail System; they performed timber stand improvement on many acres of forest lands (Fig 17.7); they collected hundreds of baskets of pine cones for forestry nurseries; and they assisted with the cultivation of millions of tree seedlings on State nurseries. They constructed miles of fences on public land, built amphitheaters, assisted with the banding of thousands of Canada geese, constructed several acres of covered pens for pheasant and quail propagation, and assisted with the propagation and stocking of fish. They constructed a number of physical fitness courses, developed and maintained ODNR's natural areas at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, collected many tons of litter from public use



Figure 17.9. This stone at the ODNR area of the Ohio State Fairgrounds commemorates the youth and activities of YCC and DCC in Ohio. A time capsule was buried in 1980 and is scheduled to be opened in the year 2000. Staff members of the Division of Civilian Conservation were in attendance on YCC Day, 16 August 1980, from left to right, kneeling: Don Reeb and Jon Weiser. Standing: Bill Willis, Charles Clark, Chief David Franklyn, Sally Lincoln, Dan Atzenhoefer, Karen Kane, and Jim McGregor.

areas, rendered assistance to the City of Cardington following the 1981 tornado, and assisted with the management of the dairy herd at Malabar Farm State Park. They voluntarily rendered valuable service at Special Olympics events at the local and state levels, and participated in the 1976 National Bicentennial Celebration (Fig 17.8). On all work projects the philosophy prevailed, "Do much with little, and denial makes character." There were sore muscles, blisters, scratches, bee stings, and poison ivy at all camp operations, but few serious complaints.

The YCC Program was the most unusual and successful youth work/learn/earn/share program ever enacted by Congress. To attest this fact, a YCC capsule extolling its worth was buried near the amphitheater on the ODNR area at the Ohio State Fairgrounds in 1980 to be opened in the year 2000 (Fig 17.9). The defunding of YCC at the end of 1981 caused a regrettable loss to the nation's environmental stewardship. Major conservation organizations in Ohio and throughout the nation passed resolutions petitioning President Jimmy Carter and Congress to continue the program, but to no avail. The youths who shared the YCC benefits will keep the values of the program alive for years to come.

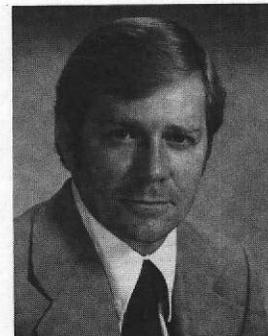
David E. Todt served in key roles during the summer months with ODNR's youth

opportunity programs from 1974 through 1988. The Designated Field Representatives of federal agencies provided guidance and special assistance: Arnold Stoltz (USFWS), Claude Ferguson (USFS), Al Elisar (USFS), and Ronald G. Abraham (USFS). Future generations will owe a debt of gratitude to the YCC participants who were environmental ambassadors in the decade of the quality environmental crusade in the 1970's. The debt can only be paid by unendingly supporting the crusade.

THE YOUNG ADULT CONSERVATION CORPS AND THE OFFICE OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION

The outstanding success of YCC at the national and state levels influenced the creation of the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) and the Office of Civilian Conservation. On 23 August 1977, YACC was authorized by Title I of the Youth Employment and Demonstration Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-93) which amended the Comprehensive Employment Act (CETA) of 1973 by adding Title VIII (United States Department of Labor) with program administration assigned to USDA and USDI. YACC did not require a state match for funding. While this national

Figure 17.10. David D. Franklyn, Chief of the Office of Civilian Conservation (1977-1979) and first Chief of the Division of Civilian Conservation (1979-1981).



legislative process for YACC proceeded in Washington D.C., a similar legislative process was underway in Ohio. The General Assembly enacted Amended Substitute House Bill 12 sponsored by Representative Arthur Wilkowski of Toledo, creating the Office of Civilian Conservation within ODNR, effective 15 August 1977. The objectives and intent of the State and federal programs largely paralleled each other and were intended to:

- 1) Accomplish needed conservation work on public land and water.
- 2) Provide gainful employment for unemployed young men and women 16-23 years of age from diverse economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.
- 3) Provide the opportunity for participants to develop marketable skills, training, education, experience, and work habits.

The Ohio law provided for a Chief, personnel, and a 13-member Advisory Council. It also addressed other issues such as camp locations, recruitment, corps member wages, and benefits.

David D. Franklyn (Fig. 17.10) was selected by ODNR Director Teater as the first Chief of the Office of Civilian Conservation in September 1977. Original staff members, most of whom transferred from other units of ODNR, included: James F. McGregor, Assistant Chief; Dan R. Atzenhoefer, YCC manager; Donald Reeb, fiscal officer; Larry Swank and Ron Savage, fiscal management; Rick Doone, transportation; Kermit Patchen and Jim Gregg, planning; William Willis, purchasing; Steve Bolish, warehouse manager; Sally Lincoln, Jon Weiser, Janice Viau, Melanie Maier and Emma Sharp-Suber, personnel; Bob Johnson, group life coordinator; Diane Armstead and Michelle Cordi, account clerks; Susan Sammons, Myrtle McElroy, Patty Barklow, Cheryl Warnke, Emma Bentley, and Freya McKethan, secretaries. Residential camp directors were Max Ross (Zaleski) and Mike Malnar (Shawnee). Nonresidential camp directors were Roger Ward (Zanesville), Dave Bittner (Scioto Trail), Jack Whitesell (Little Miami), and Charlie Clark (Green Springs).

The Advisory Council, established to advise the Chief in the implementation and operation of conservation programs, held its first meeting on 12 October 1977. Its first members, appointed by Governor James A. Rhodes, were as follows: Chair John J. Light, President, Hocking Technical College; John H. Ackerman, Director, Ohio Department of Health; Major General James C. Clem, The Adjutant General; John M. Stackhouse, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture; ODNR Director Teater; David L. Weir, Director, Ohio Department of Transportation; Senator Donald E. Lukens, Middletown; Senator Ronald K. Milleson, Freeport; Representative Walter D. McClaskey, Marion; Representative Arthur R. Wilkowski, Toledo; Herbert S. Cook, Sr., Bexley; Anne E. Lauer, Lima; and Everett E. Ridge, Athens.

With the passage of Amended Substitute House Bill 12, the General Assembly appropriated \$5 million for start-up costs. At the same time, a YACC federal grant of \$3,291,870 was authorized and received in early 1978, in addition to \$1,065,000 State funding for the same period. Federal funds paid wages and fringe benefits for Corps members and some field staff. State funds paid most staff costs, office space rental, equipment rental, transportation, tool purchases, and design and renovation costs for the Zaleski and Shawnee camps. Renovation costs exceeded \$1 million for each camp. To obligate the federal funds, Corps members had to be enrolled early at nonresidential locations, including Zaleski and Shawnee. Nonresident camps opened in the following order: March 1978, Shawnee in Scioto County; April 1978, Zanesville in Muskingum County; April 1978, Green Springs in Sandusky County; April 1978, Little Miami in Greene County; April 1978, Zaleski in Vinton County; May 1978, Scioto Trail in Ross County; and March 1980, Ohio State Fairgrounds in Franklin County (Fig 17.11).

Federal regulations stipulated that 25 percent of all Corps members had to be assigned to resident camps by a specified time. Camps Zaleski and Shawnee, with a capacity of 65 each as resident camps, were opened 5 September 1978 and 1 October 1979, respectively. To maintain enrollment strength, as dictated by the availability of federal funds, all camps, including Zaleski and Shawnee, operated satellite camps, and operations were subcontracted with the

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Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, Dayton-Montgomery County Park District, and the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District.

The Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, social service agencies, conservation groups, minority organizations, and

other agencies, including schools, assist with recruitment of Corps members. They receive the minimum hourly wage, Workers' Compensation coverage, vacation time, and are provided clothing and safety equipment. They can serve for

one year; those chosen as Corps leaders receive an increase in hourly wage and may serve for 18 months. Those in resident camps are provided lodging and food for \$3.00 per day. Upon arrival at camp, Corps members receive an orientation and instructions in first-aid, safety, and defensive driving. They are offered the opportunity to pursue advanced academic training.

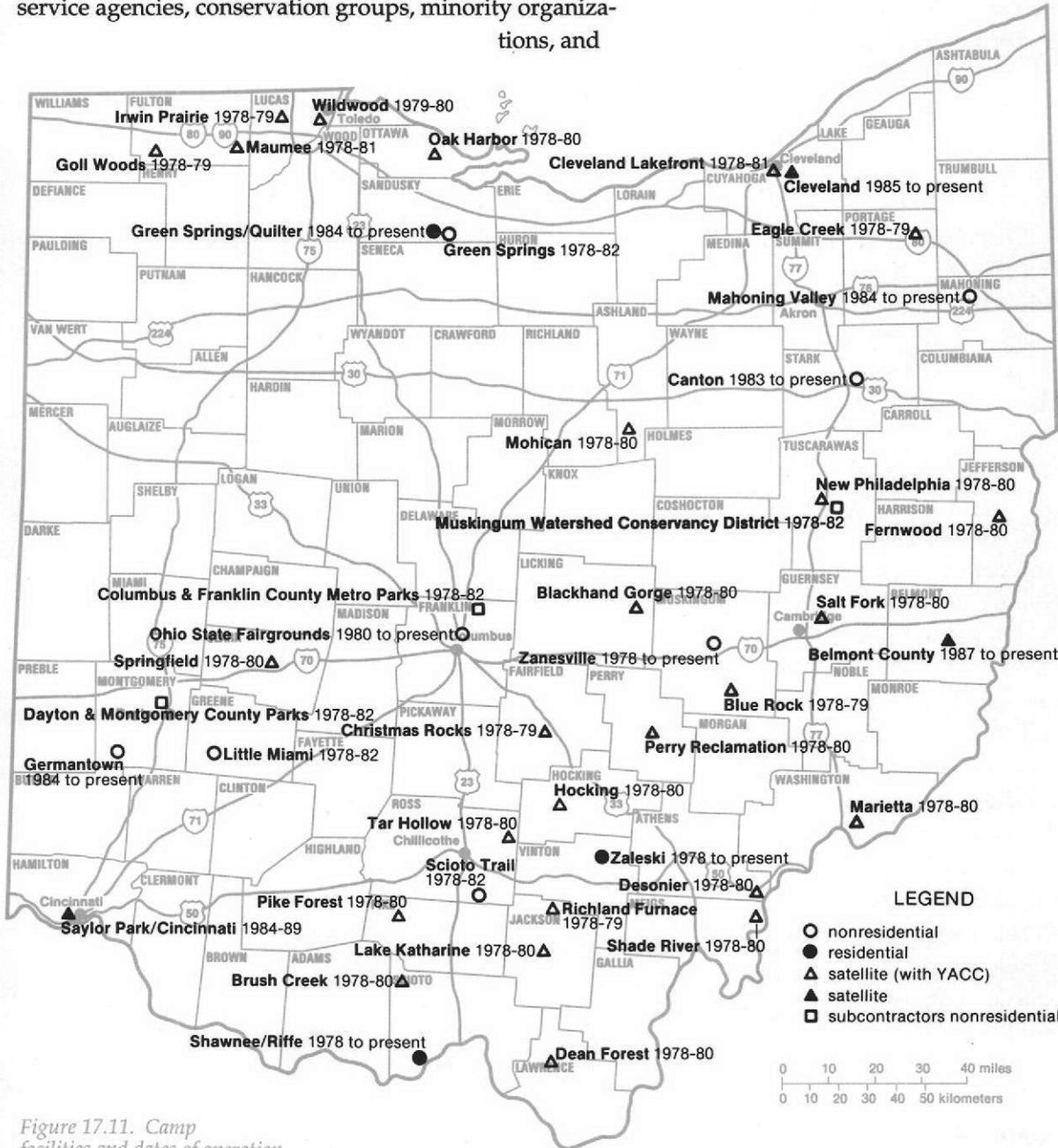


Figure 17.11. Camp facilities and dates of operation of the Division of Civilian Conservation and subcontractors, 1978-1989. All facilities which operated 1978-1981 were funded jointly by the Division and the federal Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC).

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIVISION OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION

On 15 August 1979, OCC became a permanent Division of Civilian Conservation by enactment of House Bill 565, which also broadened the authority of the Division to include cleanup and conser-



Figure 17.12. James F. McGregor, second Chief of the Division of Civilian Conservation, 1982-1983.



Figure 17.13. Nancy C. Hickman, third Chief of the Division of Civilian Conservation, 1983-1985.



Figure 17.14. Edgar C. Hinton, Jr., fourth Chief of the Division of Civilian Conservation, 1985 to the present.

vation projects, using volunteers. During the first four years of the program (OCC and DCC), the combined State and federal funding averaged \$5,482,807 annually, which provided a substantial financial base for operation (about 75 percent was federal funds). Since the defunding of YACC at the end of 1981, the Division has operated on State funding only. Chief Franklyn resigned in December 1981, and James F. McGregor (Fig 17.12) served as Chief from January 1982 to January 1983. During 1982 and 1983, reduced funding (\$1,718,180 in 1982; \$1,756,680 in 1983) caused significant operational adjustments. Three nonresident camps, Scioto Trail, Green Springs, and Little Miami, were phased out and other belt-tightening measures employed. Nancy C. Hickman (Fig 17.13) was appointed Chief in February 1983 and served to May 1985. Edgar C. Hinton, Jr., (Fig 17.14) was named Chief in June 1985 and continues to serve in that capacity. Funding increased substantially for the next four years (\$4,121,928 in 1984; \$6,476,676 in 1985; \$5,212,765 in 1986; \$5,446,082 in 1987). Even with the increased funding, operations remained lean because another resident camp was opened at Green Springs (renamed Quilter in 1985), and the Riffe Training Academy was established at Camp Shawnee (renamed Riffe in 1984). Although the Training Academy was deactivated in early 1986, the Division program continues to operate at Camp Riffe. During 1984, nonresident operations began in Canton and Germantown and

nonresident satellite camps in Cleveland and Cincinnati were started. A planned resident facility acquired near Youngstown currently operates as a nonresident facility because of the lack of funds. Funding for 1988 (\$5,607,959) and 1989 (\$5,617,082), required the Division to tighten its belt to maintain staff and Corps members levels. The Division attempted to offset the decrease in funding by increasing its projects-for-pay with the Division of Reclamation, and in 1987, a satellite camp was opened in the mining region in Belmont County. In 1988, legislation initiated by the Division changed the age requirement for Corps members from 16-23 years old to 18-24.

Corps members have worked on a great variety of conservation and community projects throughout Ohio. In addition to YCC, they brought relief to the City of Cardington after the 1981 tornado (Fig 17.15). They assisted communities in northwestern Ohio threatened by floods and snow. They have performed essential work for most Divisions of ODNR and kindred local agencies at the city, village, and county levels.

Corps members assisted with the reclamation of 1200 acres of strip-mined land and the lifting and packaging of ten million tree seed-



Figure 17.15. Division of Civilian Conservation Corps members provided community assistance to Cardington after the tornado of 1981.



Figure 17.16. Corps members learn the technologies of forestry management as part of the Division of Civilian Conservation program.

lings at State nurseries. They constructed more than 1000 wildlife nesting structures, performed timber stand improvement on 3000 acres of Ohio's forests (Fig 17.16), constructed over 500 bluebird nesting sites along Ohio's roadways, planted trees and shrubs along 500 miles of roadways, planted over one million seedlings, constructed many physical fitness courses, and assisted with game surveys and the operations of game checking stations. Thousands of hours have been devoted to the development and maintenance of ODNR facilities, stream channel stabilization, historical monument preservation, mapping of Hamilton County parks for planning purposes, and forest fire suppression (Fig 17.17). Three accomplishments are especially noteworthy: bike and horse trail along the Little Miami Scenic River, the Middletown Road covered bridge across the Little Miami River in Warren County, and the amphitheater at the Ohio State Fairgrounds which was dedicated in 1980 to the thousands of Ohio youths who participated in youth programs. The covered bridge is unique not only because of its design, but also for the team effort involved in its construction. The Wayne National Forest donated 60,000 board feet of lumber, which was cut and hauled from the forest by Corps members for milling by students at Hocking Technical College. More than 80 chestnut oak trees were felled to provide shakes for the roof of the 40 x 160 x 17 foot covered bridge. Construction began in April 1982 and the bridge was completed and dedicated in 1982 (see Figure 3.19 on page 28 and Figure 17. 18).

JUVENILE OFFENDER VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM

With the reduction in budget due to the defunding of YACC in 1981, the Division developed an agreement with the Judges of Juvenile Courts of Ohio to enroll juvenile offenders at resident camps. Zaleski was chosen to



Figure 17.19. Camp Zaleski in Vinton County provides Division of Civilian Conservation Corps members with residential facilities year-round.

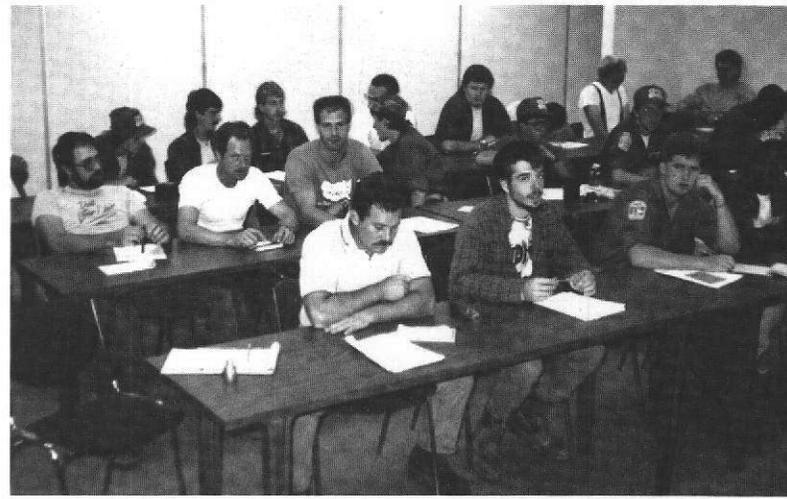


Figure 17.17. Classroom instruction was an important part of learning the principles of forest fire suppression as Corps members joined others at the Ohio Fire Academy in 1988.

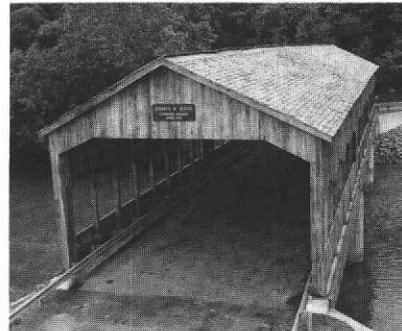


Figure 17.18. In 1982, building of the Middletown Road covered bridge crossing the Little Miami Scenic River in Warren County provided Corps members unique opportunities to develop construction skills. Timber was donated by USFS and milled at Hocking Technical College.

receive referrals during the pilot period. All Judges of Juvenile Courts in Ohio were contacted in late 1981 and early 1982, informing them that Camp Zaleski (Fig 17.19) would provide resident work experience for closely screened juvenile offenders who volunteered to participate in the program. It was agreed that the referring court would reimburse the Division at the rate of \$18.00 per day for each youth referred.

Only 15 youths were referred and the program was terminated in early 1983. Those in the program were permitted to remain until they were released to their court of residence because of their choice, length of service, or for disciplinary reasons. Of the 15 youth, two were made regular Corps members in pay status. The average stay in camp was three months. To maximize its potential, a number of operational adjustments needed to be made on

certain characteristics of the pilot effort which were in conflict with the ongoing Division program. Because of age, some court referrals were not permitted to use certain tools and equipment. They did not receive an hourly wage and their after-work liberties were restricted. Camp staff saw promise in the concept but because of the conflicts, it was believed youth offenders should be referred to a camp operated specifically for them. Despite the brevity of the program, evidence indicates a hands-on work resident camp for closely screened youth offenders could serve a useful purpose. The program concept in many respects parallels the actions of some courts, giving the youth offenders an opportunity to pay their debt to society by performing community or military service instead of being fined and/or jailed.

DIVISION OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION IN PERSPECTIVE

The Division of Civilian Conservation experienced the normal concerns of new agencies. Belief that the CCC of the 1930's could be restored a half-century later was unrealistic. The unemployed youths of today are not the same as those of 50 years ago. Attitudes, customs, and lifestyles have changed and the job market has become more complex. Demand for skills and better education characterize today's competitive technological job market. Today's work experience is as varied as it was with the original CCC. Then, as now, emphasis is focused on developing a work ethic under structured discipline, learning new skills (see Plate 20), and nurturing social and citizenship values. Today's resource management field is more sophisticated and demands technical planning and development. The lack of large, underdeveloped State land holdings as was common in the 1930's, now requires considerable travel time to many work sites. Variable funding has caused an accordion effect in planning and operation. The rate of enrollee turnover approximates the norm for youth work programs of this nature. There are over 60 such program operations throughout the nation. The cost-effectiveness of resident versus nonresident camps

is a fiscal concern. Available information indicates that training for the job market at the nonresident camps is equal to that of resident camps. The annual cost per Corps member in a 65-person resident camp is approximately \$20,000 per year when the camp is fully occupied during the year. Because of limited funding during 1985-1986, average enrollee occupancy at camps Riffe and Zaleski approximated 75 percent of capacity. The annual cost per Corps member in a nonresident camp is approximately \$15,000, and the average size of a nonresident camp is 25 Corps members.

Satellite and spike (temporary) camps have been commonly used to perform work far from the base camps. This technique is applicable to both resident and nonresident camps. The Division of Civilian Conservation has performed many worthy State and community projects. Corps member demographics are important but do not provide a base to determine program effectiveness. Job placement upon leaving the program is an important goal and many Corps members have attributed their employment to their Corps experience. Tracking those leaving the program with a job promise or otherwise is difficult because of address changes or lack of response.

To summarize the activities of the Division of Civilian Conservation, Corps-member demographics succinctly summarize the program. Of the 9601 Corps members (YACC/DCC) participating from 1977-1989, the average age was 21 years (75 percent male—25 percent female), 75 percent white, 25 percent nonwhite, 37 percent served in resident camps with an average stay of 5.5 months, 63 percent served in nonresident camps with an average stay of 6 months, 19 percent completed the 12-month program and 87 of Ohio's 88 counties were represented by Corps members. Fourteen percent of the members were reported to have found jobs upon leaving the program.

There is much conservation work yet to be done by youth Corps members. A wide range of values is available for them to share, and those who take seriously the opportunity to serve will take with them three basics: a work ethic, usable skills, and an environmental awareness. Whatever their life's pursuit, these values will serve them and society well.