



## CORPORATE WORK PROJECTS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Thank you for your interest in Yosemite Conservancy's corporate volunteer work weekends. These projects combine hard work and camaraderie and take place amidst the inspirational scenery of Yosemite National Park. These projects allow employees to work shoulder-to-shoulder with the National Park Service personnel on restoration projects funded by the Conservancy. Typically, the work is done at elevations ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 feet. Project participation is limited to 25 people.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. What is required for a corporation to participate in a work project?

These opportunities are exclusively for corporations that make a donation of \$25,000 or more to Yosemite Conservancy. The Conservancy funds around 40 projects annually for the National Park Service (NPS), which means there are a variety of sponsorship and collaboration opportunities for corporations. In addition to the \$25,000 donation, an \$8,000 management fee is assessed to cover employee participation in the work project.

#### 2. Who is the contact person for these projects?

To find out more about corporate opportunities, contact Laurie Peterson at (415) 434-8446 x328 or [lpeterson@yosemiteconservancy.org](mailto:lpeterson@yosemiteconservancy.org)

### CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

#### 3. What's the value in participating in these projects?

These projects offer many benefits, including the opportunity for employees to volunteer on a project that is of importance to Yosemite National Park, a World Heritage Site. Additionally, the Conservancy provides the following recognition to a corporation participating in a work weekend:

- Name recognition in our Annual Report
- Name listing on the Honor Wall at the Valley Visitor Center in Yosemite Valley

#### 4. What corporations have you partnered with on your projects?

The Conservancy has a long history of working enlisting the help of corporations to complete major projects including those at Glacier Point, Yosemite Falls, Tunnel View, Tenaya Lake, and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.

With funding from our donors, Yosemite Conservancy has provided more than \$125 million in grants for 640 completed projects in the park. For a list of our corporate donors visit [Yosemite Conservancy Corporate Supporters](#).

### TRANSPORTATION

#### 5. How does the group get to Yosemite?

Groups travel in transportation provided by their company or carpool together.

#### 6. How does the group get from the campsite to the worksite?

The same transportation methods as were used to get to the park (company provided bus or carpooling). are used.

### 7. How do I get to the park?

From San Francisco/Bay Area:

Distance: 195 mi/314 km

Time: 4-5 hours

Take I-580 east to I-205 east to Highway 120 east (Manteca) or Highway 140 east (Merced)

From Sacramento Area:

Distance: 176 mi/283 km

Time: 4 hours

Take Highway 99 south to Highway 120 east (Manteca) or Highway 140 east (Merced)

From Los Angeles:

Distance: 313 mi/504 km

Time: 6 hours

Take I-5 north (or I-405 north to I-5) to Highway 99 north to Highway 41 north (Fresno)

There can be vehicle restrictions to enter the park.

Please see this NPS website: [Yosemite National Park](http://www.nps.gov/yose)



## PROJECTS

### 8. When do these projects occur and how long do they last?

These opportunities are mid-week or weekends, typically from late June to late September. The projects usually last 1½ or 2 days.

### 9. What kinds of project choices are available?

Projects are subject to wildlife and vegetation requirements at various park locations and elevations. Corporate and National Park Service schedules are taken into account when determining project opportunities.

### 10. What kind of work do these groups do?

Our volunteers work with National Park Service leaders on projects related to campground improvements, trail work, and vegetation restoration. Projects typically involve a variety of tasks including seed collection, planting, carrying equipment and containers of water for distances, plant identification, invasive species and conifer removal, painting, and light construction.

### 11. What are the safety precautions?

Volunteers are required to perform their tasks in a safe manner, use appropriate tools, and wear required protective gear. Work tools and gloves are provided by the National Park Service work leaders. Safety vests are provided by the Conservancy. Care must be exercised when working on and off-trail and/or near rivers and streams. Work takes place outdoors and working conditions are variable. Projects can involve hiking on uneven, potentially rocky and/or wet, slippery terrain. Physical exertion ranges from moderate to strenuous; each participant should determine what is most appropriate.

### 12. What is the routine?

Typically, participants arrive before dinner, set up their tents, receive an orientation from the Conservancy's host, eat dinner together, and get to know each other. The following day(s) they work with National Park Service work leaders from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The rest of the day is spent exploring the park in small groups. The Conservancy's naturalists can be hired to lead guided day hikes or evening



activities, for an additional charge. Evenings are spent at picnic tables under the stars and at the campfire with an NPS host.

## CAMPING

### 13. What lodging is provided?

Volunteers stay in their own tents at a group campsite. They provide their own camping equipment, including a sleeping bag and pad. Campgrounds are equipped with bear-proof food lockers and restrooms.

### 14. Can the spouses/families of corporate associates attend?

Yes, but there is a limit of 25 participants per group, and each participant is expected to work on the project.

### 15. What bear precautions should I take?

All items with a scent--including canned goods, drinks, and toiletries--must be stored in bear-proof food lockers. These lockers must be closed and latched at all times, even while you are at your campsite. Following these regulations and precautions decreases personal injury/property damage and keeps Yosemite's bears wild. For more information visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/bears.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/scarebears.htm>



### 16. How do participants know what to bring?

Participants are provided with a suggested packing list.

## CLOTHING, MEALS AND HYGIENE

### 17. What type of clothing is appropriate?

Dressing for work and weather with long pants, long sleeved shirts, and sturdy shoes/boots is important. Comfortable and warm clothes for evening relaxation are also recommended.

### 18. What meals are provided?

Exceptional chuck wagon style meals in a communal camp setting are provided. Breakfasts and dinners are hearty, nutritious, and delicious. Desserts are baked in an outdoor oven on site. Bag lunches are delivered to the worksite.



### 19. Are there alcohol restrictions?

Alcoholic beverages are not provided, however participants are allowed to bring alcoholic beverages to share with the group in the evenings. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed for volunteers under 21 years of age. Responsible, polite behavior is expected of everyone when alcohol is consumed. The Conservancy expects those who drink alcohol to act responsibly, not drink and drive, and be able to do required work each day.

### 20. Will I have access to showers, toilets, and running water?

There are no showers in Yosemite campgrounds; however, there are showers nearby for volunteers to use free of charge. Campgrounds have either vault or flush toilets and potable running water. In the case of Yellow Pine Campground, a tank of potable water is provided. Participants should bring their own towels, toiletries, and a tote bag.

## COMMUNICATION

### 21. Will more information be provided to help prepare for the work week?

Prior to arrival, all necessary information will be provided to the corporation's coordinator.

**22. What does the corporation's coordinator do?**

The corporate coordinator is responsible for recruiting participants, supplying pre-trip information to them, and providing transportation. The coordinator also responsible for ensuring that all participants complete and submit the Conservancy's online registration forms.

**23. What is the emergency contact procedure?**

If an emergency occurs, one's emergency contact is notified. Emergency contact information is treated as confidential information that is available only as needed and is maintained by the Conservancy and Park Service program managers.

In case of a serious family emergency, volunteers can be reached by calling the Park Service dispatch center at (209) 379-1992. Callers should state the emergency, provide the volunteer's name and campsite location, and request a relay of a message. Please use this procedure for true emergencies only.

Cell phone coverage is limited in the park.

**24. How can I find out more about being a corporate partner with Yosemite Conservancy?**

Contact Laurie Peterson, Institutional Giving Officer  
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