



AmeriCorps
Ohio



2025-2026 Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation AmeriCorps Program

Conservation Implementation AmeriCorps Member

About MTSO

Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO) is a non-profit institution that provides theological education and leadership in pursuit of a just, sustainable and generative world. The Land Stewardship Team (LS) engages in eco-restoration projects and maintenance across MTSO's eighty acres of field and forest while providing environmental education and training for students, interns, and volunteers. MTSO is located at 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, Ohio, 43105.

Further information can be found on MTSO's website: <https://www.mtso.edu/>

AmeriCorps Program and Position Overview

This is a national service position affiliated with the Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation AmeriCorps State and National program. AmeriCorps is the federal government agency for national service and volunteerism in the U.S. MTSO serves as one of 9 different AmeriCorps member host sites for the Collaborative.

The Conservation Implementation AmeriCorps Member position will have you be part of a 16-member cohort for the 2025-2026 cycle of the Central Ohio Collaborative for Conservation AmeriCorps program. **This is a Full Time term of national service that requires a minimum of 1,700 hours of service to be served over the course of one year (Sep. 8, 2025-Aug. 31, 2026).** The position will work under the direct supervision of the MTSO Land Steward and supplemental supervision of the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator.

In order to meet the 1,700-hour requirement, expect to work ~35 hours/week during the service term, with the exclusion of federal holidays. Hours may fluctuate in consideration of seasonal changes, projects or events. Availability on some evenings and weekends (with advance notice to member) is desired.

Key Duties

- **Invasive Species Management:** Receive training to assist with acceptable methods of invasive species ID, removal, and treatment. Assist Land Steward with implementation of invasive management program, including the processing of removed materials, planting native species throughout cleared areas, and continuous monitoring and assessment.
- **Pollinator Habitat Management:** Assist with maintenance and development of existing pollinator beds and prairie restoration areas. Provide support for Land Steward with seed-gathering, processing, sowing, planting and maintenance of native species. Assist with existing apiary and developing more habitat for native pollinator species.
- **Eco-restoration Initiatives:** Receive relevant training to assist Land Steward in planning and execution of all key stream, forest, prairie, and wetland eco-restoration goals. Assist with development of current and new restoration projects. Track and document bioindicators (wildlife) in forest, field, and stream.
- **Equipment Operation:** Receive training on safety, operation, and maintenance of power equipment to support Land Steward with key infrastructural duties. Assist with eco-centered farm, land, trail maintenance tasks and minor construction projects. Help respond to effects and damage from extreme weather events.
- **Administrative Tasks:** Assist Land Steward with communication and instruction for interns, students, volunteers, and outside organizations across all platforms. Complete mandatory online trainings in a timely manner. Provide support in creation and distribution of key documents which may include educational brochures, powerpoints, newsletter articles, spreadsheets, grant proposals, and other materials.

Additional Duties

- Join and assist with field trips, trainings, education, outreach, and volunteer events.
- Participate in on-the-ground conservation projects with program cohort. Projects may include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Invasive species removal; (2) planting native trees, shrubs, and forbs; (3) stream, wetland, and habitat restoration; (4) litter cleanups; and (5) growing trees at local nurseries.
- Support on-the-ground conservation work for other program host sites (activities to be preapproved by the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator).
- Participate in conservation project workdays, trainings, and team-building activities with program cohort.
- Complete member timesheets, program reports, and other administrative items as scheduled.
- Participate in ServeOhio sponsored programs and activities.

Minimum Eligibility

- Must be a U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien.
- Must be at least 17 years of age by start date of service (i.e., Sep. 2025).
- Possession of a high school diploma or GED equivalent certificate.
- Ability to pass criminal background checks (having a background does not automatically exclude you from the position) and driving record check.
- Have a valid U.S. driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications

- Knowledge of Microsoft Office and Google Suite software packages.
- Ability to work outdoors in adverse weather conditions (heat, cold, insects, poison ivy, etc.).
- Ability to lift 40 pounds.
- Ability to traverse up to 0.5 mile over uneven and brushy terrain, while potentially carrying equipment, tools, and supplies with or without accommodation.
- Ability to secure transportation to and from work and events.
- Ability to work both independently and in a team setting. Comfortable in leading projects and communicating with others.
- Excellent organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills (both written and verbal).
- Ability to take direction and respond positively to feedback.

Benefits

- Living stipend up to \$22,984 or \$23,790 (distributed biweekly as \$884 or \$915 throughout the service term). The living stipend is considered taxable income by the IRS, but it is NOT counted as income for eligibility for government assistance programs, such as SNAP.
- Segal Education Award up to \$7,395 (contingent on completion of service) that can be used toward qualifying student loans and/or future educational expenses (such as tuition, fees, and supplies).
- Access to member healthcare and childcare during the time of service.
- Supplies and travel reimbursement of up to \$200 each.
- A training stipend of up to \$200 and a guarantee that at least 10% of service hours (170 hours) are dedicated to professional development activities.
- Access to federal student loan forbearance while actively serving, including forgiveness of interest accrued during service (contingent upon completion of service).
- Full Time AmeriCorps service is considered qualified employment for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

- Ability to work alongside environmental professionals and build a career in the environmental field.
- On-site housing in a graduate school apartment. This benefit is unique to this position.
- Potential opportunity to renew.
- Training on the following topics: First Aid, chainsaw safety and maintenance, herbicide & pesticide application, plant and tree ID, water and macroinvertebrate sampling.
- Additional trainings available based on member's interests.

How to Apply

Please complete an online application via the following link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/6e6f87b35df44270a4c93452caf2e281>

Contact the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, Abby Thiel (athiel@franklinswcd.org), with any questions. Applications will only be accepted if submitted via entry on Survey123 form. The application review process will start in June and remain open until the position is filled, with a priority start date of September 8.



Useful Links

Program: <https://www.franklinswcd.org/ameri-corps>

AmeriCorps: <https://americorps.gov/>

ServeOhio: <https://serve.ohio.gov/home>

MTSO: <https://www.mtso.edu/>

Disclaimer: This position constitutes a *national service* opportunity and NOT employment.