



Years

EARTHCORPS ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Dear Friends,

The year 2008 marked EarthCorps' 15th anniversary. Many alumni and early-stage supporters joined us to celebrate the evolution of this organization and our mission to build global community through local environmental service.

What started as the seed of an idea in 1993 – to bring young people from different countries together to enhance international understanding by planting trees – has germinated into an array of programs that include best-of-breed ecological restoration services, one of the largest environmental volunteer programs anywhere, and a network of more than 800 graduates worldwide who are making positive contributions in their communities.

The context of our work has changed substantially in 15 years. Thanks to the Internet, cell phones, GPS and other technology, the world is more connected than it was in 1993. Having access to email, YouTube and Skype has facilitated EarthCorps' ability to bring together young adults from far-flung regions of the world, and to keep them connected with each other.

Yet even with these impressive technological advances, there is no substitute for the person-to-person bonding that takes place when our corps members spend hours in the field side-by-side, working to create a healthier forest, stream or backcountry trail.

In the face of challenging tasks like leading dozens of volunteers in pouring rain, or pinning together multi-ton log jams to create salmon habitat, our young adult participants learn to call on new reserves of strength in themselves and each other.

Throughout EarthCorps' evolution, we have remained true to the simple but innovative idea that working together to restore the Earth is an excellent way to create cross-cultural understanding and mutual trust.

This premise is more timely than ever, with the increased public interest in environmental stewardship, community service and positive international relationships.

The 2008 corps members exemplified the principles of leadership, teamwork, mutual respect and commitment. In a Seattle Times article released just before Earth Day 2008, one reporter aptly called the corps members "environmental superheroes." These are the young people who are brave enough to answer "yes" to the following questions:

- Do you believe the environment is worth restoring?
- Do you believe the environment can be restored?
- Do you believe YOU are the one to do it?

Every year, EarthCorps' diverse group of 60 corps members from across the US and around the world make this commitment. They probably occasionally ask themselves, while biking to work at 6:45 am through the dark and rain; or while dangling from ropes to remove stubborn stands of ivy; or while hauling buckets of compost into a wetland at the base of Seattle's third runway:

Why are we doing this?

We work hard six days a week, rain or shine, in order to show that restoring the environment is an achievable goal, both here in the Pacific Northwest, and in other parts of the world too.

We are proud of EarthCorps graduates and their efforts. One alumna in Chengdu, China, activated the network she had built for GreenSOS in order to provide relief immediately following the May 2008 earthquake. Another alumna in West Seattle is starting her own environmental education corps program with the EOS Alliance. A third is bringing American teens together with Guatemalan youth to complete rural development and environmental projects. Almost anywhere you look in more than 60 countries, EarthCorps graduates are working to enhance community and improve the environment.

You are an important player in this effort to create a healthier, more sustainable world. Your support makes it possible for EarthCorps' participants to learn, connect and carry on this work in their own communities. What started as an idea 15 years ago is rippling across the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Thank you for helping us continue to grow and serve!



Steve Dubiel, Executive Director

2008 FIELD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 100,000 hours of service
- 11,500 volunteers
- 70,000 plants installed
- 4,400 survival rings
- 150 acres of land in restoration
- 25 miles of trail maintained



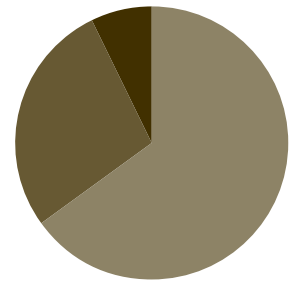
Ecological restoration is not a fad. It's crucial to sustaining life on this planet. Knowing how much there is to accomplish out there is what drives me into the field each day.
– Seta Chorbajian, '07 Massachusetts

FRONT COVER: 15 Year illustration by Terry Brosseau.

BACK COVER: Photo of 2008 corps in Magnuson Park by Marcellina Tylee, © 2008

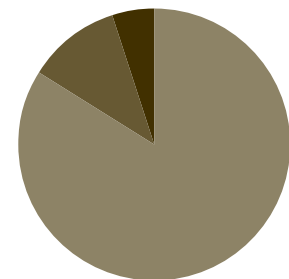
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES *for the year ended December 31, 2008*

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
REVENUE				
Individual and Corporate Contributions	165,281	-	-	165,281
Foundation Grants	157,858	26,500	-	184,358
Government Grants	190,869	-	-	190,869
In Kind Contributions	8,303	-	-	8,303
Fundraising Events, net of expenses	45,180	-	-	45,180
Program Services	1,304,859	-	-	1,304,859
Investment and Miscellaneous Income	11,388	-	-	11,388
Funds Released from Restrictions	126,000	(126,000)	-	-
Total Revenue	2,009,738	(99,500)	-	1,910,238
EXPENSES				
Program Services	1,619,624	-	-	1,619,624
Management and General	210,070	-	-	210,070
Fundraising	94,981	-	-	94,981
Total Expenses	1,924,675	-	-	1,924,675
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	85,063	(99,500)	-	(14,437)
Net Assets Beginning Of Year	895,342	196,000	3,300	1,094,642
Net Assets End Of Year	980,405	96,500	3,300	1,080,205



REVENUE

- Program Revenue 65%
- Grants & Donations 28%
- Other 7%



EXPENSES

- Program Services 84%
- Management & General 11%
- Fundraising 5%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION *at December 31, 2008*

ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	534,067
Pledges Receivable	46,283
Accounts Receivable	287,420
Prepaid Expenses	16,829
Total Current Assets	884,599
Net Property and Equipment	45,450
Unemployment Trust Deposits	59,357
Cash & Cash Equivalents - Board Designated	175,000
Investments - endowment funds	3,534
Total Assets	1,167,940
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Accounts Payable	17,582
Payroll Liabilities	39,468
Vacation Pay Payable	30,685
Total Current Liabilities	87,735
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	
Undesignated	805,405
Designated for operating reserves	175,000
Temporarily Restricted	96,500
Permanently Restricted	3,300
Total Net Assets	1,080,205
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	1,167,940

LOOKING FORWARD STRATEGICALLY

Over the course of 2008, the EarthCorps Board of Directors and community stakeholders worked diligently to develop a new strategic plan to guide EarthCorps' development. Highlights of the plan include:

- Develop young leaders and strengthen their ability to lead their communities in service;
- Create healthy habitat by deploying best practices in restoration science and becoming a regional resource for technical expertise;
- Promote strong community among the corps and community members through hands-on environmental service.

We look forward to continuing to serve local and global communities in the coming years!

Richard A. Cuff

Rich Cuff, President, Board of Directors

- AUBURN**
Green River
- BELLEVUE**
Newport Creek
- CAMANO ISLAND**
Naas Nature Preserve
- CARNATION**
Tolt Dam
- CEDAR RIVER WATERSHED**
- EVERETT**
Forgotten Creek
Union Slough
- FEDERAL WAY**
Brooke Lake
East Fork Hylebos Stream
Lower Hylebos Marsh
Spring Valley Open Space
West Hylebos Wetlands Park
West Milton Nature Preserve
- ISSAQUAH**
Klahanie Homeowners Association
- KENT**
Clark Lake
Green River
Lake Fenwick Park
- KIRKLAND**
Carillon Woods Park
Cotton Hill Park
Cochran Springs
Juanita Creek
Kiwaniis Park
Watershed Park
- MERCER ISLAND**
Clarke Beach
Ellis Pond
Island Crest Park
Parkwood Ridge

- Pioneer Park
SE 53rd Open Space
- MILL CREEK**
- MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY**
Mount Washington
Squak Mountain
Taylor Mountain
Tiger Mountain
- MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST**
Dutch Miller Gap Trail
Kaleetan Lake Trail
Melakwa Lake Trail
Pratt Lake Trail
- MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK**
- NORMANDY PARK**
- NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK**
- PUYALLUP**
South Prairie Creek Preserve
- REDMOND**
Perrigo Park
Sammamish River
- SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**
- SEATAC**
Tye Valley Golf Course
- SEATTLE**
Brandon Street Natural Area
Burke Gilman Trail
Carkeek Park
Cheasty Greenspace
Colman Park
Conibear Shellhouse Wetland
Dahl Playfield
Dearborn Park
Dempsey Wetland

- Discovery Park
Dr. Jose Rizal Park
Fairview Park
Freemont Bridge Embankment
Frink Park
Golden Gardens Park
Hitt's Hill
Interlaken Park
Jackson Park Golf Course
Jackson Park Natural Area
Kiwaniis Ravine
Lake People Park
Lakeridge Park
Llandover Woods
Lawton Park
Leshi Lake Dell Natural Area
Licton Springs Park
Lincoln Park
Longfellow Golf Course
Maple Leaf Reach
Me-Kwa-Mooks
Magnuson Park
Madrona Woods
Matthews Beach Park
Northeast Queen Anne Greenbelt
Perkins Lane Greenspace
Pipers Creek
Puget Creek Natural Area
Ravenna Park Natural Area
Salmon Bay Natural Area
Seward Park
Thistle Street at Longfellow Creek
Thornton Creek 1, 2, 6
Thornton Creek Baukus, Gibson and Spear
Volunteer Park
Washington Park Arboretum
West Duwamish Greenbelt
Yesler Creek
- SKYKOMISH**
Meadow Creek Trail
Skykomish River
- SNOQUALMIE FALLS**

- TACOMA**
Middle Waterway
Commencement Bay
Julia's Gulch
Mowitch
Skookum
Squally Beach
Yowkwala
- TUKWILA**
Tukwila Pond Park
- VASHON ISLAND**
Fern Cove
- WOODINVILLE**
Brightwater Treatment Plant
Little Bear Creek
Lumpkin Property
Willows Lodge
Woodin Creek Park
Woodinville 145th Street

15 YEARS OF EARTHCorPS

IN 1993
Program length: 3 weeks
Staff: 0
Corps members: 24

IN 2008
Program length: 10.5 months
Staff: 20
Corps members: 76

1993 – 2008

SALMON BAY NATURAL AREA

I met a team of superheroes the other day...
Adapted from The Seattle Times NW Weekend "Local Work, Global View"

Salmon Bay Natural Area is located just west of the busy locks that link Seattle's Ship Canal to Puget Sound. Under a railroad trestle, tucked up against the south-facing hillside, researchers from the University of Washington located the most important feeding area for juvenile salmon in the region's Lake Washington runs. Here, young fish make the difficult transition from fresh to salt water and prepare for their multi-year stint at sea. Ballard-based Groundswell NW worked with Seattle Public Utilities and other partners to raise \$1 million to buy properties and protect this valuable stretch of urban shoreline. EarthCorps crews participated in clearing and planting the steep slopes.

"They wore hard hats and safety vests instead of capes, and dangled from climbing ropes instead of spider silk. But they battled their arch enemy (in this case English ivy...) with the undaunted determination and modesty that are defining habits of all true superheroes." – Kathryn True

Link to the full article at earthcorps.org



Maxx Tomlinson and her crew mates dig deep to create salmon habitat just yards away from one of the busiest locks in North America. Photo courtesy of The Seattle Times.

CORPS PROGRAM

EarthCorps' flagship corps program is an intensive year-round service learning experience for young adults ages 18-25 from across the United States and around the world. Up to 60 young adults participate in the program annually.

CREW LEADERS AND INTERNS

Selected corps program graduates qualify for advanced second-year leadership development training. Crew leaders work directly with the corps program. Interns combine environmental education and stewardship, working with youth and adult volunteers.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteer events in local parks and open spaces engage thousands of community volunteers each year in restoring their local environment. More than 300 events were held in 2008, including collaborations with the Green Seattle, Green Kirkland and Green Tacoma Partnerships.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

EarthCorps hosts participants and delegations from around the world to share best practices in youth development and environmental restoration work. EarthCorps also out-places externs, international participants who serve with other nonprofits and conservation corps.

For more information about EarthCorps programs and requirements, see earthcorps.org

Volunteers of the Year Award – Mandy Mattson, Tim Wong, Jan and Tom O'Callahan

EarthCorps honored two extraordinary volunteer couples for stepping up rain or shine to attend service events throughout Seattle and on Mercer Island. They averaged more than one volunteer event each month – exemplifying citizen stewardship while also enjoying all that the parks offer.



Even the Mariners Moose volunteered with EarthCorps.

AWARDS

Each year, EarthCorps holds a special volunteer event and awards ceremony to appreciate the many people who make this work possible.

Cynthia Sullivan Award – Ann Lawrence

EarthCorps' highest award, named for the King County Councilwoman who created EarthCorps' first major public-private partnership, goes to a person who has made a substantial contribution to environmental stewardship. Ann Lawrence is the mother of EarthCorps alumna Sara Lawrence '00. She served as President of the Board of Directors, volunteered with the Program Committee and has nurtured twelve international participants as a home-stay "mother." Ann proves that caring for each other is the key to restoring the Earth.



Ann Lawrence has cared for generations of EarthCorps participants. Pictured here with EarthCorps founder Dwight Wilson and Executive Director Steve Dubiel at Thornton Creek Park 6 – one of the first EarthCorps planting sites.

Alumni Award – Mario Flores '01, Guatemala Country Coordinator, Global Visionaries

Mario bridges American and Guatemalan culture by recruiting diverse US teens and Guatemalan youth to serve together on rural development and environmental projects, while developing their leadership and cross-cultural communication skills. He is a role model for current EarthCorps participants and has hosted many EarthCorps alumni in service projects in Guatemala.

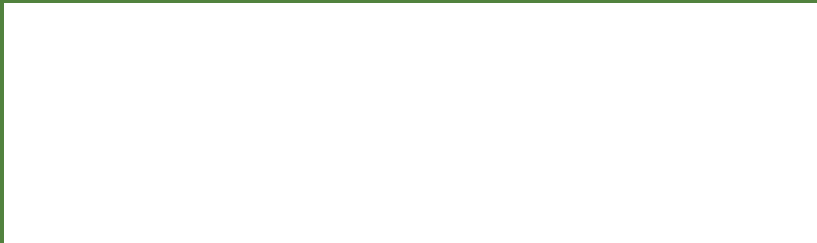


Mario Flores leading a service camp in Guatemala.

EarthCorps
LOCAL RESTORATION · GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

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