

### What is MYC?

MYC is a youth service learning and conservation program at Reynolds Learning Academy. Our team is made up of 12-16 students, a program coordinator, a crew leader, and an AmeriCorps member. MYC crew members spend half of their time in the field doing environmental restoration projects and the other half in the classroom learning material related to their work in the field. Our program gives students the opportunity to earn credits and finish high school through active and experiential learning!



### Powell Butte Hike



We went on a short hike at Powell Butte Nature Park in the beginning of this hexter! Powell Butte is an extinct volcano and is Portland's second-largest park. We were able to walk around the park together while practicing our plant identification and bird watching skills. One of the most interesting finds was a hummingbird!



It's always so nice to have a leisurely hike in between our work days.

This hexter, we worked hard as a team on our many projects doing plantings, amphibian egg mass surveys, and more! Read on to learn more about what we had going on!



## Urban Habitat Program with Verde & Columbia Slough Watershed Council



This hexter was the start of an exciting project that MYC does with our partner Verde and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council every year...building rain gardens and Naturescapes! On Thursdays, we headed out to different properties in the Cully and North Portland neighborhoods to build one of these gardens to prevent environmental degradation in these areas. By building these rain gardens and Naturescapes, we are promoting the natural filtration of rainwater from impervious surfaces, while also planting and supporting the life of native plants in Oregon!





## Tualatin Hills Nature Park & Cooper Mountain Hike



More hikes! Maya took us to these cool spots on the west side of Portland. We were able to do more plant identification and use our binoculars to point out bird life.



## Amphibian Egg Mass Surveys with the City of Gresham

During this hexter, we started a new project with the City of Gresham doing amphibian egg mass surveys! We went out to a pond in Gresham to look for frog and salamander eggs. Doing these surveys help to monitor the health of the ecosystem around them, as well as native amphibian populations. It was so cool to walk through the waters in our waders and hold the eggs. We even found a rare reg-legged frog too!





## Bareroot Planting with Columbia Slough Watershed Council

We started our bareroot plantings with Max from the Columbia Slough Watershed Council this hexter as well. So far, we have planted over 500 bareroots along the Slough! Doing these plantings are essential to creating a healthier waterway. Once the bareroots grow taller, they will create shade on the Slough. With cooler waters, the Slough can support more aquatic life, as well as create a natural area for other wildlife! These are especially crucial in urban and industrial areas!





## MYC Student Recognition: Daniel Nañez

We want to congratulate Daniel this hexter! He has been with MYC since summer crew and has shown great leadership, work ethic, and teamwork this school year. He is an essential member to our team with his determination, perseverance, and positive energy. Daniel is graduating this hexter, and we are so excited to see where he goes next. He has grown to become a great leader and his presence will be missed in our crew. We know that he is going to do great things and will be a hard worker wherever he goes! He will be greatly missed, but we are so pumped for his next steps in life!



Our Tribute  
to Daniel by  
Madison &  
Tyler



## Upcoming Projects!

- We will be continuing our rain garden and Naturescape project throughout April with Verde and Columbia Slough Watershed Council.
- We will also be continuing amphibian egg mass surveys with the City of Gresham!
- More projects with Oregon State Parks are coming soon...
- We will also be having our Earth Day event with the City of Troutdale on Saturday, April 23 from 8:30am-2:30pm at [Stuart Ridge Greenway](#) in Troutdale. If you're interested in seeing the MYC students in action, please come out and volunteer with us! See Samantha Ishihara for more details.

## Join MYC!

If you are interested in joining MYC, grab a student interest form from the office, fill it out, and turn it in. We'll meet with you to see if you're a good fit for the program and you'll get the chance to come out with us on a crew day to try out the work before making your decision. Contact Rose Sandy, Maya Seidel, or Samantha Ishihara with any question!

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