

Martin Luther King, Jr. 2014 Service Day Maine Conservation Corps Participation



Left to Right: Matthew Kennedy, Laura Crossley, Anna Farrell, Sarah Fensore, Conner Casey, Jake VanGorder, Peter Marquis, Jr., Jake Skakal, Dylan Cookson, and Andrew Mowry.

The theme of the 2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Day of Service is "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'" Here is what the new Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) AmeriCorps service members did for others:

Six new MCC Environmental Stewards (Matthew Kennedy, Laura Crossley, Anna Farrell, Sarah Fensore, Conner Casey, and Jake VanGorder) and four new MCC Veteran Community Leaders (Peter Marquis, Jr., Jake Skakal, Dylan Cookson, and Andrew

Mowry) undertook an afternoon's work on January 17th at Camp Mechuwana in Winthrop, Maine cleaning up and disposing of brush and debris from the recent ice storm which ravaged the region the previous month.

At the request of the Camp staff, and under the supervision of MCC Field Team Training Coordinator Erin Amadon, the MCC AmeriCorps members spent several hours in 30-degree winter weather helping prepare the site for next season's campers. Practicing their 'leave no trace' training, they cleared the site of potentially dangerous downed tree branches, debris, and other safety hazards.

New MCC Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, Michael Hein chose to donate blood at a Red Cross blood drive at the Augusta (Maine) YMCA on January 21st to participate in the 2014 MLK Day of Service and to 'do something for others.' Along with the other new MCC members, Michael is a fellow 1,700-hour AmeriCorps service member, and he is a Maine Army National Guard veteran.



MCC Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Michael Hein

MCC AmeriCorps service members fully embraced the 2014 MLK Day of Service ethos of making it "a day on, not a day off" and serving "throughout the year." This service to others fostered a sense of community, growth, and learning for all involved. In answering this call to serve others, MCC members got things done and answered "life's most persistent and urgent question."