

## **Napa County Request for Information – Litter Removal Services**

This is the formal letter of interest by Conservation Corps North Bay to the Request for Information (RFI) for Litter Removal Services by the County of Napa and Upper Valley Waste Management Agency. In this letter, CCNB will demonstrate that our organization has the resources and expertise to solve the problem at hand, which is stated in the RFI as “many County and City roads are regularly polluted with litter as a result of illegal dumping as well as unintentional discard of waste from various sources. This litter is an environmental and visual blight.”.

### **Program History**

Founded in 1982 as America’s first local nonprofit youth conservation corps, Conservation Corps North Bay’s (CCNB) mission is to develop youth and conserve natural resources for a resilient, sustainable, and equitable community. The organization was founded by former Deputy Secretary for California’s Natural Resources Agency, Richard Hammond, and a group of forward-thinking Marin County youth and environmental advocates who were looking to address two critically important needs—the need to engage youth in work, education, and service, and the need to steward the environment. 39 years later, CCNB is a leader in the local conservation corps movement, which now spans 127 local corps nationwide.

Today, CCNB specializes in helping young people achieve their goals while stewarding and protecting the environment and communities across the North Bay. Through CCNB’s 6-12-month program, young people from Marin and Sonoma Counties receive 32 hours per week of paid on-the-job training working on recycling and other essential environmental projects; eight hours per week of educational classes; and a host of individualized wrap-around support services including two years of post-program follow-up. Approximately 75% of CCNB program graduates transition into high-quality employment, earning more than \$17/hr.

CCNB has an experienced team of 40 staff members led by the organization’s management team, which includes CCNB’s Chief Executive Officer (Angel Minor), Programs Director (Tara Cornelisse), and Director of Development and Communications (Anastasia Pryor). To date, major organizational accomplishments include:

- Helping thousands of young people improve their lives through service (approx. 200 youth served annually).
- Opening new campuses in northern Marin and Sonoma Counties since 2008, doubling our capacity to serve youth and local communities.
- Launching new job training pipelines in energy efficiency, e-waste recycling, water-wise landscaping, sustainable agriculture, and public works since 2010.
- In 2019, expanding its recycling services by establishing permanent free mattress collection sites in Marin and Sonoma Counties.
- Enhancing public lands and environmental sustainability by performing nearly 3 million hours of

work on 150,000 acres of public lands and by collecting/recycling approximately 275 tons of CRV material and 400+ tons of E-waste material annually in Marin and Sonoma Counties.

- Being selected as one of 106 organizations nationwide to join the California-based venture philanthropy organization REDF's 2016-2020 social enterprise portfolio.
- Winning the 2020 CRRA (California Resource Recovery Association) Outstanding HHW/Universal/ Electronic Recycling Award for its E-waste collection partnership with Zero Waste Sonoma.

### **Qualifications**

Since October 2016, Conservation Corps North Bay crews have provided litter abatement service through various grant and Fee-for-Service funded projects. During that time, CCNB has collected and removed over 30,000 lbs. of waste material from public spaces across the North Bay. With more than 80 active Corpsmembers and 15 Supervisors employed, CCNB has the staffing and equipment (vehicle fleet, gloves, litter pickers, bags, totes, etc.) to complete almost any litter abatement project, large or small. In the last year alone CCNB's Zero waste Department collected and recycled:

- Over 400,000 lbs. of Electronic Waste
- 255,000 lbs. of Beverage Container material
- 12,600 Waste Tires
- 6,800 Mattresses

CCNB crews not only have the experience to perform litter removal service safely and efficiently, but the waste collection expertise to sort material appropriately to maximize the number of items collected that are diverted from the landfill. Additionally, CCNB crews can perform waste characterization studies of collected material as requested by partners.

Importantly, CCNB captures all project data daily in Salesforce. Utilizing this data management system allows us to ensure that project and programmatic objectives are met and to accurately report back the information our project partners require. Current partners include: Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (Zero Waste Sonoma), City of San Rafael, Marin County Parks, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and many more.

### **Ideas and Solutions**

To solve the issue of litter in public spaces across the County of Napa, Conservation Corps North Bay proposes to first coordinate with the Roads Division of Napa County and the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency to identify where the environmental and visual blight of public litter most needs attention. Following the development of a hot spot map or list of target areas, CCNB can supply work crews of 1 Supervisor and 1-8 Corpsmembers (based on need) Monday – Thursday, year-round (excluding holidays) to provide litter removal service, waste sorting of material to recycling, compost, and landfill, and the delivery of material to the appropriate waste disposal facilities. CCNB crews will also be available to provide waste characterization studies upon request from the Roads Division or the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency.

CCNB will collect and share all material data generated from work conducted on this project with the Roads Division of Napa County and the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency. Data captured for litter abatement service typically includes: date, site(s) visited, landfill weight collected, recycling weight collected, compost weight collected, and project photos (other data may be available upon request).

Lastly, CCNB can also provide vegetation management services in conjunction with litter removal service upon request. CCNB's Natural Resources Department completes vegetation management projects year-round which range from fire fuel reduction, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, trail construction and maintenance, and flood prevention work. These crews are experienced in high grass cutting, reducing ladder fuel, tree removal and thinning, and maintaining vegetation understory. Furthermore, CCNB can provide dump truck and chipper services in-house to transport chipped vegetation or complete mulching projects. Maintaining vegetation along county and City roads in combination with litter removal will increase safety, environmental health, and the natural beauty of Napa.

In the past year alone, CCNB's Natural Resources program accomplished the following:

- Reduced fire fuels on 406 acres of public and private lands
- Restored or improved 145 acres of natural habitat
- Provided maintenance and renovations on 81 miles of trails
- Reduced the risk of flooding along 71 miles of urban creeks and streams

For questions or more information about Conservation Corps North Bay's services or program, please contact:

Kyle LaRue  
Zero Waste Program Manager  
[klarue@ccnorthbay.org](mailto:klarue@ccnorthbay.org)  
707.758.5417