



The Regeneration Corps

The Regeneration Corps is a learning collaboration between high school-aged students in Vermont and leading organizations in resilience and agriculture. This partnership is supporting the academic needs of students while priming them for leadership in a transition through the acute challenges of our times. The existing [Flexible Pathways](#) (FP) personalized learning option and [Proficiency-Based Learning](#) (PBL) standards anchor this opportunity for young people in Vermont to work for community resilience. The content of this collaboration supports student involvement and ongoing community connections in the following areas:

- [Just Transition](#)
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Racial Justice
- Climate
- Community Organizing and Service-based Projects
- Youth Leadership & Engagement
- Food and Land Sovereignty

This collaboration presents regenerative food systems as a key element of addressing climate change and socio-economic resilience. Our scholastic and organizational partners train participants in agricultural literacy, community organizing, social justice, and a broad spectrum of hands-on and place-based content. This is an opportunity for youth to earn credit and/or satisfy proficiency based learning requirements and further academic studies while building life skills and a regenerative future across the region. We are dedicated to working with schools and students to make sure that this program is accessible to all by helping to overcome obstacles to participation on a case-by-case basis.

At this time, Regeneration Corps offers three different types of learning opportunities:

- **Regeneration Corps Introduction Days:** These are one-off events where students take part in a community service project and learn more about Regeneration Corps. This option requires no experience or long term commitment and allows students (and families!) to decide if Regeneration Corps is right for them!
- **Regenerative Agriculture 101:** This four-part workshop series covering Regeneration Corps themes is designed to be integrated into class curriculums or independent studies and includes field trips to local farms.
- **Flexible Pathways Personalized Learning Program:** In this robust Regeneration Corps program, students will regularly participate in on-farm learning days, engage with Regeneration Corps themes, and have the opportunity to pursue skills or subjects of interest as an independent study. Regeneration Corps partners will work with students and school mentors to design a learning plan that will align with the students' goals, interests, and graduation requirements, as well as support them through the learning process.

Students can receive academic credit or meet proficiency based learning requirements through Flexible Pathways or personalized learning programs. The potential for each student to receive academic credit for their involvement will depend on their respective schools' available staff support, Flexible Pathways/independent study offerings, and the capacity of those programs to support their work with partner organizations. There are also opportunities for teachers to incorporate Regeneration Corps programming into their curriculum and for students to participate in community service events as an introduction to Regeneration Corps.

Desired Outcomes

- ★ Practical, regenerative land-based skills
- ★ Leadership development
- ★ Agricultural and Ecological literacy
- ★ Social justice and community organizing skills
- ★ Social/emotional learning
- ★ Self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making
- ★ Accessibility to this collaboration for all youth in Vermont

Partnership

- **Project hosts:** These are individuals or organizations (e.g. farms, nonprofits, clubs, etc.) that will lead educational programming on-site, either at their own sites or a site that would need additional organizational support.
- **Teachers and school staff:** These are the folks who let students know about this opportunity and make it possible for students to get academic credit for projects with Regeneration Corps. Teachers, counselors, administrators, and other youth allies can work with this collaboration to connect youth with exciting resilience-building projects.
 - The Regeneration Corps team also works with teachers to integrate hands-on learning experiences into their classes through our "Regenerative Agriculture 101"

workshop series. Additionally, Regeneration Corps can help design and carry out projects on school grounds, such as community gardens, permaculture designs, or tree plantings.

- **Organizational partners:** These are organizations involved on a spectrum from just “signing on” with your logo and being involved ad hoc, to being part of the “boots on the ground” team that builds this program. Some options for involvement include:
 - Helping on site with training, workshops, and events
 - Sharing outreach/publicity materials by email, phone, word of mouth, or social media
 - Contributing staff time
 - Contributing money for a paid coordinator
 - Contributing money or in-kind donations for project materials
 - “Back-end” and administrative support (e.g. bookkeeping, logistical organizing, tech support, etc.)
 - “Team Member”: Involvement in strategic development, building the Regeneration Corps network, attending meetings, fundraising, etc.
 - Or you tell us how you’d like to work together!

Current partners

- Building A Local Economy (BALE)
- Farm 2 Plate Network
- Community Resilience Organizations (CROs)
- Grow More Waste Less
- Change the World Kids
- Center for Grassroots Organizing
- Permaculture Solutions
- Rural Vermont

Contact Mindy Blank at mindy@gocros.org with questions or to find out more about getting involved!