



Youth Education 2025

Conservation Champions

Every year we strive to inspire local youth to become champions of conservation, ensuring that the places we love are not destroyed by our pursuit to experience them to their fullest.

Our goal is to ensure that children leave our programs with a deeper understanding of ecosystem health, native and invasive species, clean recreation practices, and land stewardship—ensuring a lifelong appreciation of and commitment to protecting the natural resources that surround them.

By collaborating with partners like local schools, childcare programs, and more, we're able to bring engaging, hands-on learning to communities around southwest Montana, inspiring children to be conservation champions at home and beyond.



"I host lots of education and outreach events with a variety of partners. When I work with Grow Wild, they always come prepared with so much energy and easily digestible knowledge for their programs. Kids and adults alike come out of their program knowing more about native and invasive species and they leave feeling inspired...I greatly enjoy working with them and love to support what they do."

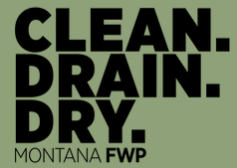
Bea McNamara

Education & Outreach Director
Gallatin Conservation District



Annual Ophir Elementary 2nd grade field trip

Clean.Drain.Dry. and **PlayCleanGo** are core to our youth education program. By understanding how to intentionally recreate outdoors from a young age, youth are better equipped to be a leader for conservation in their communities all while cultivating a love for recreating outdoors.



Summer Stewards program with the Gallatin Conservation District





2,486 kids

Flyfishing camp with the Gallatin River Task Force

39 youth events

Summer camp with the Gallatin Valley YMCA



4 youth weed pulls

Weed pull with Big Sky Youth Empowerment



Acknowledgments and Gratitude

We extend our sincere thanks to the partners who help us cultivate the next generation of conservation champions. It's through their support that we're able to reach students all over southwest Montana. In a constantly changing funding environment, backing for youth conservation education requires dedicated partners who see the immense value in educating the future generation of conservation-minded Montanans. We are grateful for the opportunity to foster experiences for youth to deepen their understanding and appreciation for the natural world. Thank you to our funders:

Big Sky Resort Tax District

Charles L. and Polly Anceney Gallatin Valley Fund

Gallatin County

Gallatin Canyon Women's Club

Madison County

Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

