

Help Grow the Movement



1. **Start a conversation** in your community to share why it is important to connect kids to the outdoors and to brainstorm what you can do locally. A great way to get the conversation started is to approach a book club with a request to read the book, “Last Child in the Woods; Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder” and have a dialogue with book club members about this topic.
2. **Identify a host organization.** It is recommended that youth programs be coordinated through a community organization to ensure the safety of both the participants and volunteers. Collaborate with a site in your community that provides youth programming (youth center, community center, recreation center, YMCA, community education, library, church, 4-H club, scout troop, etc.). This host site will be responsible for registration and volunteer screening and training.
3. **Find volunteers** by reaching out to local outdoor groups such as garden clubs, birding groups, sportsmen’s clubs, Izaak Walton League, FFA chapters, etc. Volunteers may be on-going or may be interested in coming once or twice to share a special outdoor skill or interest.
4. **Schedule a Project GO training.** Once you have a program plan and partners in place, Project GO will be happy to work with your community to bring training for staff and volunteers who will be leading outdoor activities for youth. The Project GO Leader Certification training is an 8-hour course designed to provide hands-on practice with planning and implementing outdoor programs. The course costs \$250 per participant and each course can accommodate up to 25 participants. Project GO can work with your site to find grants to cover the training costs. To inquire about scheduling training, contact Project GO at sara.grover@yahoo.com .