

Tanner Yess

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Work Experience

15 years of nonprofit experience at various levels of management and programming around the world, paired with local connections and partnerships in Greater Cincinnati:

- ❑ 2019-Present: **Founding Co-Executive Director**, [Groundwork Ohio River Valley](#)
 - ❑ Developed a new nonprofit with [Groundwork USA](#) and the National Park Service built on community outreach, climate justice, education and green jobs.
 - ❑ Created one of the nation's largest **Youth Green Workforce Programs** with over 150 youth employees.
 - ❑ Brought [Climate Safe Neighborhoods](#) to the Ohio River Valley
- ❑ 2017-2019: **Deputy Director**, Groundwork Cincinnati – Mill Creek
Manage and raise funds for \$5,000 - \$500,000 projects. Duties include grant writing, project management, budgeting, program implementation, fieldwork supervision, and executive level functions.
 - ❑ Foster relationships with the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. EPA resulting in multiple grants and financial support.
 - ❑ Successful grants and fundraising campaigns with local and national partners.
 - ❑ Experience measuring impact of programs for funders and participants.
 - ❑ Collaboration with Cincinnati and Hamilton County's Youth 2 Work federal workforce initiative
- ❑ 2014-2018: **Board of Directors and Trip Leader**, Adventure Crew.
- ❑ 2013-2015: **Planning Partner**, Green Umbrella & Groundwork Cincinnati
Co-creator of TriState Trails' Regional Trails Plan, the first trails plan for the region.
- ❑ 2014-Present: **Member**, Ohio River Paddlefest Planning Committee.
- ❑ 2011-2013: **Peace Corps Volunteer**, Thailand
Organized multi-district projects focused on sustainable tourism, environmental education and recreation.
- ❑ 2010: **NOAA Observer**, Techsea International, Dutch Harbor Alaska.
Data driven management of Alaska's ocean fisheries and. Lived and worked on fishing vessels in the Bering Sea.
- ❑ 2009: **Coastal Ecology Instructor**, Shannon Point Marine Center, Western Washington University.
- ❑ 2007-2010: **Stream Restoration Assistant**, NKU Center for Environmental Restoration.

Education, Research & Other Publications

Academia rooted in practice with community partners:

- ❑ Shifflett, S.D.; Newcomer-Johnson, T.; Yess, T.; Jacobs, S. [Interdisciplinary Collaboration on Green Infrastructure for Urban Watershed Management](#): An Ohio Case Study. *Water* 2019, 11, 738.
- ❑ Yess, T. & Varady, D. (2015). BOOK REVIEW Roxanne Warren, *Rail and the City: Shrinking Our Carbon Footprint While Reimagining Urban Space*. *Journal of Urban Affairs*.
- ❑ Hood, Corathers, et al. (2015). *Cincinnati Connects: Weaving together our Region's Trails*.
- ❑ Yess, T. (2015). Evaluating the Implementation of Village-scale Ecotourism in Thale Noi, Thailand and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). *Journal of the University of Cincinnati's MCP theses*.
- ❑ Hixson, B., Hopgood, D., & Yess, T. (2014). Water. In D. J. Edelman (Ed.), *Managing the urban environment - Mysore, India* (pp. 239-266). Saarbrücken, Germany: LAP LAMBERT
- ❑ 2013-2015: Student/Graduate Assistant - **Master of Community Planning**, Concentration on Urban Planning and Resource Management, University of Cincinnati.
- ❑ 2012: Water Hyacinth bioremediation/wetland filtration project manager, Thailand.
- ❑ 2005-2009: **Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science**, NKU.
- ❑ 2007: Ecotourism specialized coursework, Universidad Nacional de CR, Costa Rica.
- ❑ 2006: "An Assessment of Livelihood Strategies with Community Perceptions in the Amboseli Region and their effects on Community Conservation." Boston University, Kenya. Worked with native Maasai tribes on human-wildlife interactions.

Outreach & Awards

Working towards the future of conservation in cities across the nation:

- ❑ 2021: [World Wildlife Fund - Climate Change Advocacy Spotlight](#)
- ❑ 2018: [Murie Spirit of Conservation Rising Leader Award](#)
- ❑ 2017: [SH/FT Emerging Leader](#) One of 32 individuals selected from across the nation as leaders in outdoor recreation and conservation. Designation provides connections to large outdoor retailers, National Park units, and outdoor recreation nonprofits.
- ❑ July 2017: Presenter for the international conference: *People of the Global Majority in the Outdoors, Nature, and the Environment (PGM ONE)*.
- ❑ 2016 -2017: **National Park Service**, Mountains to Mainstreet Ambassador: Advise on specialized projects across the nation connecting urban residents to parks.
- ❑ **Patagonia Pro**: Affiliated athlete with Patagonia for gear purchase and testing.
- ❑ Languages: Spanish (proficient), Thai (advanced)