



Oak Creek YCF youth earn wildland firefighting certification

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Twenty-two young women at Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility recently completed the week-long fire academy program to become certified wildland firefighters.

My staff and I brought Camp Riverbend's program to Oak Creek to certify the youth, who soon will receive certificates for meeting the National Wildfire Coordinating Group standards, meaning they can fight fires anywhere in the United States.

The young women put in long classroom hours and completed hands-on work lighting fires, digging fire lines, cold trailing, laying hoses, and mopping up. They did an amazing job taking notes and doing the physical work to become a wildland firefighter.

These young women showed commitment, respect, and desire to achieve their goals as firefighters. It was an amazing experience to see what they gained from the class.

