

https://buffalonews.com/opinion/letters/letter-biden-should-institute-climate-conservation-corps/article_1352833e-2832-11eb-89ee-97cdebd977d1.html

Letter: Biden should institute Climate Conservation Corps

Nov 18, 2020

Support this work for \$1 a month

Four years ago, despite losing the popular vote by over 2% of the votes cast, 306 Electoral votes was considered a “landslide victory” by the Republicans. As I write this, 2020’s Electoral College results are exactly the same, but President-elect Joe Biden

was elected with over 15 million more votes than Donald Trump's total in 2016.

Americans have spoken loud and clear. Never has a sitting president been rejected by more voters in the history of this country. And with that comes a real mandate for the incoming administration.

The closest rejection of a sitting president was in 1932 when Franklin Roosevelt won his first term. Among the many programs started during this term was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). If you've ever been to Allegany State Park, many of the rustic trails, bridges and roads you see today are some of the work the CCC did to improve the public's access to protected wild areas across the United States. Closer to home, much of the forests in East Concord owned and managed by Erie County were planted by the CCC.

Biden addressed climate change issues throughout the campaign. It will not be enough to reverse the destructive policies of the last four years. We need immediate action to get back to where the United States was when President Obama signed the Paris Climate Accord and move forward quickly. Biden should look back to FDR and create a Climate Conservation Corps.

Going beyond the initial manual labor tasks of the CCC, the Climate Conservation Corps would also be tasked in training new leaders in climate mitigation and resilience to help create sustainability solutions for communities fighting climate enhanced risks from hurricanes, fires, floods, droughts, etc. The program would give a shot in the arm to national parks in

serious need of upgrades while also preparing a workforce with the skills needed to combat climate change.

John Szalasny

Williamsville

 5 comments

Catch the latest in Opinion

Get opinion pieces, letters and editorials sent directly to your inbox weekly!

* I understand and agree that registration on or use of this site constitutes agreement to its user agreement and [privacy policy](#).

Most Popular

Letter: Youth hockey is now victim of overzealous Covid control

Updated Nov 14, 2020

In all six New England states and New Jersey, kids are now playing competitive ice hockey against other teams from within their own states. In...

Letter: Shocking examples might persuade mask compliance

Updated Nov 14, 2020

Although there's probably not much that will change an anti-masker's mind, let's try this - what if tomorrow's headline read: "Parasites Infec..."

Letter: Putting governors in charge of pandemic is slick strategy

Updated Nov 14, 2020

The only brilliant thing I've noticed about President Trump was when he put the governors in charge of the pandemic. It was a win-win for him....

Letter: Cuomo's insistence could backfire on us

Nov 17, 2020

Early on during the pandemic I praised Gov. Andrew Cuomo's articulate and factual briefings. Now Cuomo has said he wants to have independent s...

Letter: Cuomo vaccine suggestion means unnecessary waiting

Updated Nov 15, 2020

Indeed, a great suggestion Gov. Andrew Cuomo has for vaccine distribution. Let's wait for Jan 20 and the (uncertified) Biden administration to...

Letter: People who refuse masks are putting others at risk

Nov 17, 2020

I was just shopping at a store on McKinley. I saw at least four sets of customers not wearing masks including a family of five with all but on...

Letter: Not everything you hear from Trump rings true

Nov 15, 2020

Obama was not U.S. born.

Letter: Biden should reinstate all those Trump fired

Nov 12, 2020

I guess Donald Trump was right about one thing, we did get tired of his kind of "winning."

Letter: Trump continues to act in his own self-interest

Nov 17, 2020

As if we need any more evidence that Donald Trump is unfit for any office, we now hear that he is contesting the results of the election.

Letter: Republicans must exit ranks to force much-needed change

Nov 17, 2020

As a life-long Republican, I am disgusted by this post-election vote challenge by the Republican Party where Republican public officials are b...
