

VOLUNTEER SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2016



**2,900+ VOLUNTEERS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN
THE COMMUNITY.**

Volunteerism is thriving in Plymouth. The volunteer program harnesses the energy, talent and passion of people of all ages and backgrounds. Scouts, teens, young adults, parents and retirees volunteer - and they volunteer for many reasons. New arrivals to Plymouth see volunteering as an entry point to the community while long-time residents see it as a way to give back. Retirees frequently use volunteering as an avenue to keep their skill set fresh and build social connections. Together volunteers keep our community strong.

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Another Big Year!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39,105 hours - a new record! Two large, one-time-only groups participated this year.* • 2,941 volunteers - a new record! Many volunteers participated in more than one department or program.
Value to the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer hours are valued at \$921,313 of contributions in kind. • The number of hours contributed is equivalent to 18.8 FTE.
By the Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 465 individuals made initial contact with the Volunteer Services office. • 102 applications were received. • 56 potential candidates were interviewed for regular or short-term positions. • 107 requests for volunteers, in addition to major special events, were received.
New Volunteer Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated underground water main GIS (Geographic Informational Systems) data. • Prepped 95 iPads for use in the general election. • Organized the storeroom housing 150 sizes and units of oil filters for all city vehicles • Created a virtual tour of rain gardens using Google Tour Builder and ArcGIS. • Created a Veteran's Memorial database for the city's website. • Students from the U of M prepared 5 capstone projects to address city challenges.* • Took photos of Park and Recreation programs for promotional use. • Participated in a large-scale safety drill conducted by the Plymouth Public Safety Department, involving 650 school district employees and more than 130 first responders from 16 public safety agencies.* • Consulted with Human Resources staff on recruitment processes for seasonal workers.
Special Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 86 volunteer-supported city events, providing front-line customer service. • 1,087 event shifts. • 58,224 participants impacted by volunteer interactions.
Plantings and Outdoor Maintenance Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 377 volunteers assisted with plantings and outdoor maintenance projects. • 108 volunteers removed buckthorn from 7 parks, trails and green space. • Shoreline restoration: 1,800 plants at East Medicine and 904 plants at Parkers Lake.
Who are our Volunteers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70% are Plymouth residents. • Volunteers reside in 32 different cities. • 26% are teens, 57% adults and 17% seniors. • An equal percentage of women (50%) and men (50%) volunteered. • 47 community and family groups participated. • 466 residents adopted fire hydrants. • 163 neighborhoods coordinated Night to Unite events.
They Make a Difference!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 259 coaches and ski chaperones - 2,188 youth served. • 12 open picklball/open soccer volunteers - 621 participants served. • 31 Park & Recreation Summer Teen volunteers - 3,149 youth served. • 49 parks, 18 miles of trails and 28 miles streets adopted. • 6 Chaplain Corps call outs to residents in crisis. • 32 seniors received one-on-one computer training from volunteers. • 11.04 miles of hearts painted every 1/10 mile on trails, totaling 63.72 miles to date. • 12,000 annual flowers planted in a morning. • 41 Millennium Garden wedding parties supported. • 62,000 Dog Poop Bags dispensed in 19 designated park locations. • 14 volunteers marked 49 storm drains to prevent storm water pollution. • 73 volunteers assisted with 19 assembly projects. • 4 volunteers responded to 90 Santa letters.
What Volunteers Say:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I did my best to make the Millennium Garden a pleasant place for all to enjoy. • I enjoy helping out and am glad to ensure that the event ran so well. • It was great to teach fishing skills and to see the kids' faces when they caught fish! • It was a wonderful and fulfilling learning opportunity to work with City employees. • I had a wonderful time meeting the amazing volunteers and making new friends.
What Staff Say:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ladies are sweet and are very good workers. We are lucky to have them! • He is a fanastic volunteer! • I love our volunteers! They are awesome; I so appreciate their help.