

VOLUNTEER SERVICES IMPACT REPORT 2017



2,300+ 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"> • 27,232 hours • 2,309 volunteers. Many volunteers participated in more than one program.
Value to the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer hours are valued at \$657,387 of contribution in kind. • The number of hours contributed is equivalent to 13.1 FTE.
By the Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 449 individuals made initial contact with the Volunteer Services office. • 74 applications were received. • 44 potential candidates were interviewed for regular or short-term positions. • 92 requests for volunteers beyond major special events were received.
New Volunteer Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepped 40 donated stuff toys which Public Safety officers will give to children in crisis. • Scanned over 1,000 park inspection documents across 23 years and 150 Bassett Creek Watershed files dating from the 1970s to create digital records. • Sewed replacement costumes for Olav and Minion characters. • Took on Garden Captain role for three large group planting projects. • Acted in a video about crime prevention in banks. • Coordinated a Fire department data collection project. • Revitalized Gilfillan Cabin garden and Elmhurst neighborhood garden. • Assisted disabled athletes competing in the National Sled Hockey Tournament. • Portrayed residents requiring emergency shelter for a Public Safety role playing event. • Provided point of contact support for the women's open hockey program.
Special Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 volunteer-supported city events, providing front line customer service. • 1,034 event shifts with 61,739 participants impacted by volunteer interactions. • 27 volunteers assisted with Wayzata Police Officer Matthew's funeral in which more than 2,000 officers attended and hundreds of caring public members lined the streets.
Environmental and Outdoor Maintenance Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 449 volunteers assisted with plantings and outdoor maintenance projects. • 85 volunteers removed buckthorn from 5 city parks, trails and green space. • 1,806 shoreline restoration plants installed at East Medicine Lake. • 1,200 native trees planted along the Northwest Greenway. • 500 native plants installed for endangered butterfly habitat at Aspen Ridge Park. • 900 labyrinth stones were individually cut from encroaching turf at the Millennium Garden. • 128 volunteers marked 554 storm drains to prevent water pollution.
Who are our Volunteers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 88% are Plymouth residents. • Volunteers reside in 27 different cities. • 26% teens, 58% adults and 16% seniors • An equal percentage of women (50%) and men (50%) volunteered. • 85 community and family groups participated.
They Make a Difference!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 552 residents adopted fire hydrants. • 4 Eagle Scouts coordinated projects to mark storm drains and landscape at parks. • 164 neighborhoods coordinated Night to Unite events. • 219 coaches and ski chaperones – 2,112 youth served. • 12 open pickleball/open soccer volunteers – 327 participants served. • 26 Park & Recreation Summer Teen volunteers – 3,033 youth served. • 38 parks, 18.5 miles of trails and 16 miles streets adopted. • 6 Chaplain Corps members responded to residents in crisis. • 19.77 miles of hearts painted every 1/10 mile on trails, totaling 68.01 miles to date. • 6,000 annual flowers planted in a morning. • 24 volunteers sorted and loaded 1,520 trees and shrubs for 252 tree sale customers. • 41 Millennium Garden wedding parties received assistance during their rehearsal. • 84,000 Dog Poop Bags dispensed in 25 designated park locations. • 128 volunteers marked 554 storm drains to prevent storm water pollution. • 59 volunteers assisted with 17 assembly projects. • 575 Halloween treat bags and 600 s'mores packets were assembled for events. • 9 volunteers assisted 8,754 Farmer's Market attendees.
What Staff say:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The volunteers are a huge help with beginner skaters—especially the ones who are timid or afraid at first (and sometimes crying).They are able to work with these kids one-on-one to get them comfortable enough to participate in class. • How fortunate we are to have these individuals assisting with events!
What Volunteers Say:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You don't have to volunteer, but you should. (Teen volunteer) • Thank you for allowing me to volunteer at Officer Mathews' funeral. I felt so proud to be a Plymouth volunteer. • As a new resident, I feel so much more at home here because I volunteer, and I am more aware of the truly fantastic community opportunities available in the city.