

# VOLUNTEER SERVICES IMPACT REPORT 2021



[PLYMOUTHMN.GOV/VOLUNTEER](https://plymouthmn.gov/volunteer)

The willingness to volunteer in the community plays a vital role in the day-to-day operations of the City of Plymouth.

Volunteers keep parks, trails and streets clean. They provide warm and friendly welcomes during special events. They share their professional skills and expertise. They install native pollinator plants and remove invasive species from natural areas.

They act as coaches and role models to children in the community. They step up when a call for help goes out.

Life in Plymouth would not be the same without volunteers.



**2,000+ VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY.**



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<b>A Return to Normal Activity Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,059 volunteers contributed 25,201 hours of service</li> <li>• Volunteers participated in multiple departments and/or programs</li> </ul>
<b>Value to the City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteer hours are valued at \$719,237 of contribution in kind</li> <li>• The number of hours contributed is equivalent to 12.12 FTE</li> </ul>
<b>By the Numbers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 659 individuals contacted the Volunteer Services office</li> <li>• 378 applications were received</li> <li>• 106 potential candidates were interviewed</li> <li>• 124 staff requests for volunteer assistance were received</li> </ul>
<b>Who are our Volunteers?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 89% are Plymouth residents, but volunteers reside in 30 cities and one other country</li> <li>• 114 community and family groups participated</li> </ul>
<b>New Volunteer Tasks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepped Valentine's Day string art kits by staining 24 art supply boards</li> <li>• Wrote blog posts for the Plymouth Historical Society (PHS) website</li> <li>• Introduced tweens to volunteering by picking up trash and marking 70 storm drains</li> <li>• Acted as ambassadors for senior programs relocated to City Hall</li> <li>• Sewed fabric covers for SWAT shields</li> <li>• Assisted with the Plymouth Community Center renovation project by moving equipment out before construction began, and cleaning before the public opening</li> <li>• Took photos of PHS collection objects for a digital inventory</li> <li>• Agreed to interpret in Hindi and Tamil on an on-call basis for the Public Safety Department</li> </ul>
<b>Special Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 493 volunteers provided front-line customer service during 83 city-sponsored events</li> <li>• 53,397 participants impacted by volunteer interactions</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental and Outdoor Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52 volunteers installed 1,002 prairie plants at Green Tree Island Park</li> <li>• Two groups cleaned trash from the banks of Plymouth Creek and Elm Creek</li> <li>• Watered the children's vegetable garden at Prairie Ponds Park</li> <li>• 1,187 cars greeted during Drop-Off Day, resulting in the collection of 125 gallons of household batteries, 3,761 light bulbs, 30,266 pounds of paper shredding and 7,894 pounds of textiles</li> <li>• 569 cars greeted during fall shredding event resulting in 32,360 pounds of paper shredded, one and a half 15-foot box trucks filled with donations and more than 100 bicycles donated</li> <li>• 26 volunteers removed rubbish and fireworks debris after Music in Plymouth</li> <li>• Prepped wood duck boxes for the spring nesting season</li> <li>• 317 volunteers assisted with outdoor maintenance and trail cleanup projects</li> <li>• 230 volunteers cleared 4.8 acres of buckthorn from seven city parks, trails and green spaces</li> <li>• 170 volunteers pulled invasive garlic mustard from 13 city parks, trails and green spaces</li> <li>• A volunteer helped create a brief educational video to identify invasive buckthorn</li> <li>• 1,420 trees and shrubs distributed during the Tree and Shrub Sale</li> <li>• 106,800 dog waste bags were dispensed in 31 designated park locations</li> <li>• 44 parks, 23 gardens, 18.5 miles of trails and 20 miles of streets were adopted</li> <li>• 69 storm drains and 98 fire hydrants were adopted</li> </ul>
<b>They Make a Difference!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 246 athletic coaches – 1,089 youth were served</li> <li>• 44 Parks and Recreation Summer Teen volunteers – 4,657 youth were served</li> <li>• 10 volunteers facilitated 776 Open Soccer and Open Pickleball participants</li> <li>• CERT volunteers were activated six times, including assisting with Afghan refugee rehousing</li> <li>• 11 vitrines were built to support PHS building models as an Eagle Scout project</li> <li>• 320 "thank you" notes were created and shared with Plymouth veterans</li> <li>• Four volunteers assisted 15 Millennium Garden weddings</li> <li>• Chaplain Corps members responded four times to residents in crisis</li> <li>• 91 volunteers assembled 32 projects, including 500 take-home craft kits and 900 s'mores kits</li> <li>• 10 volunteers assisted 20,618 Farmer's Market patrons</li> <li>• 1,269 Plymouth Post cards and letters were created and sent to isolated seniors</li> </ul>
<b>What Volunteers Say</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "I'm so happy to be back again!"</li> <li>• "My life is enriched by the staff and other volunteers I have had the opportunity to work with."</li> <li>• "I learned about entertaining children and taking care of them, which is particularly valuable because I am considering a career as a teacher."</li> <li>• From the parent of a teen volunteer, "Working for the city this summer and fall has really helped her develop confidence to try new things."</li> </ul>
<b>What City Staff Says</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "The volunteers have been such an asset to our summer camp program and have provided great service to our participants and staff."</li> <li>• "The compliments we receive about the clean Recycling Drop Off site are due to this volunteer's efforts."</li> <li>• "This volunteer program is a great way to build our future staff."</li> </ul>