

Volunteer Season is Winding Down!

Winter approaches, and as much comes to a rest in the colder months, so does our program. If you haven't volunteered with us yet this year, we have some offerings in November, and then things pick back up in the spring. This season has been ending on a busy note, though, with so much accomplished by volunteers in October! Invasive brush was cut, native species were planted, litter was picked up, spooky treats were given, playgrounds were weeded, and much much more. Thanks to all the volunteers who have been working so hard this year!



*Native Planting at Burr Oak Park
10/8/24*

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

[Click here to learn more and register for our upcoming volunteer events!](#)

You can also email us: volunteer@a2gov.org

November 1 Love a Park Day at **Riverside Park** 10am-12pm

November 8 Love a Park Day at **Gallup Park** 3-5pm

November 12 Love a Park Day at **West Park** 3-5pm

November 15 Love a Park Day at **West Park** 10am-12pm

November 17 Love a Park Day at **Graydon Park** 1-3pm

November 20 Love a Park Day at **Fuller Park** 10am-12pm

November 22 Love a Park Day at **Gallup Park** 10am-12pm

November 23 Bike Park Workday at **Bandemer Park** 12:30-2:30pm

November 30 Bike Park Workday at **Tuebingen Park** 12:30-2:30pm



OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

September Totals: **32** Events / **435** Volunteers / **910** Hours



UM Pre-Surgical Club at Postman's Rest Park *October 17, 2024*

Volunteers helped pull weeds, remove invasive brush, and plant daffodil bulbs at one of the smallest (and cutest!) parks in the city.

Shoreline Restoration Workday at Island Park *October 18, 2024*

A group of volunteers came out to help with this ongoing project! We've been cutting invasive brush and planting native species along the river.





**UM Ross HR
at Fuller Park**
October 18, 2024

Volunteers from the Ross School of Business at Michigan painted concrete planters and barriers in Fuller Park in front of the pool area, adding a fun splash of color!

**UM Air Force ROTC
at Veterans Memorial Park**
October 19, 2024

Volunteers from UM's Air Force ROTC cleaned up at Veterans Memorial Park, collecting over 83 pounds of litter!



**Rudolph Steiner School
at Garden Homes Park**
October 23, 2024

Eighth grade students from Rudolph Steiner School helped weed the playground and spruce up in Garden Homes Park.



TRICK OR TREAT ON THE RIVER '24

Thanks to the 75 volunteers who made the event so special!



Despite a rainy and cloudy day, Trick or Treat on the River 2024 was a huge success! The event couldn't happen without all of the volunteers who got in costume and made the event special. 75 volunteers helped staff the event, giving out treats and spooky vibes to over 500 boats. All of the kids and families who came to the event had a great time! We look forward to spookifying the Huron River again next year.



The New Gallup Park Bridge is Open!

On October 24th, the city held a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the new bridge in Gallup Park. Mayor Christopher Taylor and congresswoman Debbie Dingell were there to celebrate. It's a beautiful bridge, check it out!



VEP Prize Pickup Pauses in December - New Prizes Next Year



VEP prize pickup pauses in December! The current prize list is only valid for 2024. If you want the current slate of prizes, you have about a month left to get them! Prize pickup resumes in March, but there will be different prizes next year. Visiting parks is on your own timeframe, there is no deadline.



Staff Spotlight: Andy

Andy has been working for GIVE 365 since 2020. Andy served as our Playground Technician for several years, keeping all of our park playgrounds beautiful. This year Andy transitioned into an outreach role and now helps manage our inbox and plan group events!



"It has been a joy watching the Ann Arbor community come together and work side by side to help improve our common spaces. The work we do, whether pulling thistle or refreshing a playground with new woodchips, is often fleeting, but the connections made while working together are enduring."



Volunteers of the Month: Bruce & Ron

Bruce and Ron have been radically transforming Scheffler Park, cutting down huge amounts of invasive brush. This project has helped reveal the beautiful Mallett's Creek, flowing through the park, once mostly hidden. This project was approved through our Adopt-a-Park Special Park Project Proposal! Volunteers have been assisting at several workdays, planting native plants and trees, installing a new garden bed, and helping cut more invasive brush.

"Malletts Creek is a feature of Scheffler Park that was hidden by an expanding wall of invasive honeysuckle and buckthorn. By removing the invasives, visitors can view and come to respect the creek. With the invasives cut back, we've recently planted native trees and plants on volunteer workdays. It will be exciting to see the changes over time."

- Bruce & Ron



the
Adopt
-a-Park corner
city of ann arbor

Fall Festival at
Waterworks Park
Hosted by Ann Arbor Farm & Garden
10/20/24



Adopter Workday
at Graydon Park 10/20/24

The neighbors of Graydon Park have been holding regular workdays to keep the park cared for. They were joined by students from UM's Enviro 201 class. They raked leaves, pulled weeds, picked up trash, and cut some invasive brush.



An Adoptable Park: *Hunt Park*



Hunt Park is a large neighborhood park on the west side of the city, near downtown, with a great view of the iconic city skyline.

This is a large and beloved neighborhood park. There are rolling grass fields, tennis courts, a playground, Project Grow gardens and more. There is a garden bed full of native plants at the sign on the upper point of the park, with wild geranium and helianthus (wild sunflower), which would benefit from some mulching and division every year to increase the diversity of the garden.

This would be a great park for a small group with an interest in native plants!



If you're interested in adopting this beautiful park, email adopt-a-park@a2gov.org

Links



[GIVE 365 Page & Upcoming Events](#)



[Visit Every Park Challenge](#)

Social Media



Facebook



X (formerly Twitter)



Instagram

