



Record-Setting River Litter Recovery!



Try saying that five times fast! Volunteers through our Huron River Cleanup program set an all-time record in pounds of litter recovered from the river in one season. Volunteers picked up **2661 pounds** in total! This program runs June through September and is partially funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Energy, Great Lakes, and the Environment. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out to help clean up the Huron!

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

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

You can also email us: volunteer@a2gov.org

- October 2** Love a Park Day at **Turnberry Park** 10am-12pm
- October 3** Native Planting Workday at **Burr Oak Park** 5-7pm
- October 4** Love a Park Day at **Gallup Butterfly Garden** 10am-12pm
- October 11** Love a Park Day at **Scheffler Park** 3-5pm
- October 13** Trick-or-Treat on the River at **Gallup Park** 12-4pm
- October 18** Love a Park Day at **Island Park** 10am-12pm
- October 19** Bike Park Workday at **Tuebingen Park** 12:30-2:30pm
- October 24** Love a Park Day at **Island Park** 3-5pm
- October 26** Bike Park Workday at **Bandemer Park** 12:30-2:30pm



SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

September Totals: **33** Events / **383** Volunteers / **757** Hours



Toyota-Subaru of Ann Arbor on the Huron River *September 13, 2024*

A group of volunteers from Toyota-Subaru of Ann Arbor cleaned up the Huron River on the stretch between the Argo and Gallup canoe & kayak liveries.

UM Habitat for Humanity at South University Park *September 15, 2024*

UM's chapter of Habitat For Humanity helped out at South University park, pulling weeds and planting new plants in the garden beds there.





C4 Analytics at Gallup Park

September 19, 2024

C4 Analytics comes out yearly for a volunteer day, in honor of their late coworker Phil Murphy. This year they helped maintain the garden beds near the popular Universal Access Playground in Gallup Park.

Love a Park Day at Gallup Park “Goat Islands” with IOE

September 20, 2024

Volunteers were joined by a large group of students from UM’s Industrial Operations Engineering (IOE) class. Students from this class have been working on cutting back invasive brush on these islands in Gallup Park for years. We’re starting to see the benefits of this as some native plants are starting to establish!



Friends of Jude Walton at West Park

September 29, 2024

Friends of the late beloved Jude Walton came out for a volunteer workday in West Park, which Jude lived next to. They spruced up a garden bed along Huron, planted some plants, and picked up litter throughout the park.

Group Event Season Pauses in November

While there are still opportunities to volunteer with us for the next two months or so, the volunteer season is starting to wind down. We stop scheduling volunteer events with groups in November, and resume in March. Availability is already limited for October if your group is looking to plan an event with us!



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 2 months 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.

TRICK OR TREAT ON THE RIVER

Last call for volunteers
Sunday, October 13th
12pm - 4pm

There are only a few slots left to volunteer with us at this popular event!

[Volunteer Signup Link](#)

[Learn More About the Event](#)





Staff Spotlight: Garret

Garret joined the GIVE 365 staff last year, but he had already been leading volunteer activities at the bike parks since 2019. Garret's passion for these amenities, located in Bandemer Park and Tuebingen Park, has helped them look and function better than ever.

"It is a privilege to serve the parks and people of Ann Arbor—near 120,000 people who work, serve, study, and research HARD; I am grateful for the opportunity to maintain and enhance the amenities that help the community refresh, recharge, and play HARD too! Bike parks are fun! You are invited to ride, dig, watch, and/or share your ideas any time!"



Volunteer of the Month: Sarah S.

Sarah adopts the Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden in Gallup Park, alongside the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor North.

"I had the idea to adopt the butterfly garden because I often passed by and through it on walks and runs on the trails of Gallup Park. Because it has so many beds, it needs frequent attention to keep invading and non-native plants at bay and allow the incredible collection of flowering plants to flourish. Though I have plenty of work in my garden at home, adopting the garden and volunteering during monthly work days has been an opportunity to meet and learn from others and to work together on caring for this vibrant and peaceful spot in the community."



the
Adopt
-a-Park corner
city of ann arbor

*Theta Alpha Psi
at Hanover Square* 9.13.24



*Adopter Workday
at Graydon Park* 9/15/24

The neighbors of Graydon Park have been holding regular workdays to keep the park in tip-top shape. They pulled weeds, picked up trash, and trimmed back some overgrown vegetation spilling into the sidewalk area.



*Adopter Workday
at Esch Park* 9/18/24

Park adopter Cathy was joined by her coworkers and a few other volunteers to help spruce up the park. The playground is looking much better now after they spent hours pulling weeds!



An Adoptable Park: *Redwood Park*



Redwood Park is a small park on the corner of Platt Road and Redwood Avenue in southeast Ann Arbor.

It features a large garden encircled by a paved path and bench. The garden contains native plants like goldenrod, wild ginger, black-eyed susan, wild strawberry and cut-leaf coneflower. This garden needs attention to keep the weeds at bay and keep everything looking beautiful! We are seeking volunteers to help us pull weeds like bindweed, Canada thistle and mugwort. Other tasks in the garden could include cutting back shrubs, spreading woodchips and planting more perennial flowers.



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

