

GIVE GAZETTE

365 — September 2023 —



Upcoming September Events

- Sep 6** Gardening Workday at **Northside Park** 4–6pm
- Sep 10** Shoreline Planting Workday at **Dolph Nature Area** 10am–12pm
- Sep 14** Playground Workday at **Sylvan Park** 5–7pm
- Sep 15** Love a Park Day at **Esch Park** 10am–12pm
- Sep 16** Love a Park Day at **West Park** 1–3pm
- Sep 17** Love a Park Day at **Graydon Park** 10am–12pm
- Sep 19** Stewardship Workday at **Bandemer Park** 8:30–10am
- Sep 19** Shoreline Planting at **Gallup Park** 10am–12pm
- Sep 20** Love the River Day at **Gallup Park Canoe Livery** 4–5:30pm
- Sep 22** A2Zero Green Fair (Multiple Shifts) in **Downtown A2** 5–8pm
- Sep 29** Gardening Workday at **Gallup Butterfly Garden** 10am–12pm

[Click here to view or register for our upcoming volunteer opportunities!](#)

or

email us at volunteera2gov.org



August Highlights



8/4: Tenneco spent over SIX hours volunteering with us, working at the playground at **Island Park** and then doing a **river cleanup** trip! They removed **346 pounds** of trash from the river!



8/8: Concordia Football, in an annual tradition, resurfaced 6 playgrounds in 4 parks all at once!



8/15: Interns from the **Huron River Watershed Council** did a shoreline workday at Gallup Park near the UAP, installing a natural shoreline buffer to protect against erosion.

August Totals

32
events
394
volunteers
851.5
hours



Welcome New Staff!

GIVE 365 has two new staff members! Join us in welcoming **Jakob** (left) and **Garret** (right). Jakob will be out in the field in parks and at events, and Garret leads volunteer maintenance workdays at the bike parks.



Trick or Treat on the River 2023 — Save the Date!

Trick or Treat on the River is returning for 2023! Despite construction set to begin in Gallup, the event is on. The event is scheduled for **October 15th** at Gallup Park from **12-4pm**. Stay tuned for details regarding volunteering at the event.

West Park Bandshell Project Update

Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation is seeking community engagement regarding the **West Park Bandshell**, which has been closed since 2021 due to structural issues. There is a public survey and pop up events happening at the park to solicit feedback from the public. [Learn more here.](#)



External Volunteer Opportunity: Monarch Migration Festival at LSNC

The Leslie Science & Nature Center is seeking volunteers to help at the annual **Monarch Migration Festival** on September 10th! Tasks may include helping release butterflies, working with butterfly crafts, assisting in the butterfly tent, tie-dye, and more! [Sign up here.](#)

The Ebb & Flow of the Huron

By Ryan Poling, GIVE 365 staff

The Huron River is angry and turbulent. Back-to-back storms filled the river over its banks, and right now over a thousand cubic feet of water travel past each second. Earlier this year, the river was low, parched after an extremely dry May, meandering in a much slower fashion. Through times dry and wet, and changing seasons, water levels change dramatically. By the time you read this, it could be completely different. One thing, though, always remains the same— the river never stops flowing.

Each summer, we take groups of volunteers out onto the water to remove litter and waste from the river. These volunteers are paddling in canoes & kayaks around Argo Livery, Gallup Livery, and the beloved 4-mile-long stretch of river in between. Their mission is to seek and remove every piece of litter they can possibly find. We outfit them with trash-pickers and reusable waste collection bags, and they do the rest. One such group, Tenneco, removed over 346 pounds of trash in one go!

We've been putting an emphasis on removing plastic waste. We're learning more and more about how plastic degrades into microplastics, but never decomposes. These microplastics have found their way into every living system on this planet, including your own body right now.

We're protecting our own ecosystems, and this river is a precious resource to us. The river, though, doesn't exist in a vacuum. It's connected to the world at large. The river eventually drains into lake Erie, and water from lake Erie eventually flows through Lake Ontario and the Saint Lawrence River into the Atlantic Ocean.

If you're interested in learning more about our river cleanup program, check out the [River Clean-Up site](#). We're nearing the end of the 2023 season, but next spring we'll start scheduling for our Summer 2024 events. Join us on the Huron!



August Workday Highlights



8/4: Southeast Area Park is adopted by **Mitsubishi Research and Development** (left) and they perform regular workdays in the park. They came out to help pick up trash, pull weeds in the playground, and apply a salt & vinegar weed solution to one of the playground areas. This helped prep the playgrounds for resurfacing by Concordia Football a few days later!



8/12: The neighbors of Windemere Park, who adopt and watch over the park, hosted a workday. They refreshed the playground, pulling weeds and spreading new woodchips, and built a new soccer goal! Kids in the neighborhood are already using it to practice and play soccer.



8/12: White Oak Park has been seeing a surge of interest since Ella (9 years old) wrote to the mayor asking for some care for the park. Neighbors weeded the playground, planted some native plants, and painted a little free library that will call the park its home this fall!



Congratulations to our newest VEP Champions!



Who will be the next to join them on the **Wall of Champions?**

Links



[GIVE 365 Page & Upcoming Events](#)



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