



PUBLISHED FOR THE VOLUNTEERS OF KETTERING — SPRING 2022

Message from the Mayor

Dear Volunteers:

The City of Kettering will be joining communities across the country in observance of National Volunteer Week, April

17 – 23. This special week gives us the opportunity to thank those who give their time and talents to their community in an effort to make a difference.

Our volunteer program was one of the first local government programs in the United States. Currently, there are nearly 1,000 volunteers registered with the volunteer office. All of these volunteers have been active within the last three years. This figure does not include the many outside organizations that provide service throughout the year

as part of the Cities of Service Initiative, Make A Difference Day, and special events. I am very proud to represent a city where civic engagement is a priority.

The positive impact made by our volunteers is impressive. From our summer camp assistants to our compost cops and Neighborhood Pride committee, volunteers make things happen!

As we use this week as a time to recognize those who have already made volunteerism a part of their lives, we encourage others to become involved as volunteers.

In observance of National Volunteer Week, I will join with many governors and local officials by issuing a proclamation at the April 12 city

council meeting. I will also present the Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service to a deserving youth and an adult volunteer.

As we celebrate National Volunteer Week and the City of Kettering's volunteer program, I sincerely thank you for choosing the City of Kettering as the place to share your skills and enthusiasm.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving an invitation to our annual community block party at Frazee Pavilion. Please plan to attend this event to celebrate how much we appreciate you and your contributions to making this a special community!

Thank you for your service.

Mayor Peggy Lehner

National Volunteer Week

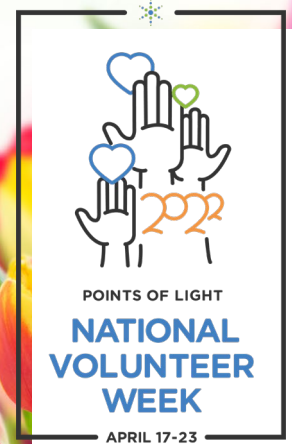
The City of Kettering will be joining communities across the country in observing National Volunteer Week, April 13 through 23. This week is focused on recognizing those who have made volunteerism a part of their lives and to encourage others to become involved. This year marks the 48th anniversary of National Volunteer Week and the 43rd anniversary of the City of Kettering's Volunteer Program.

Community Block Party (Date to be determined)

Please join us at Frazee Pavilion for this free event which is open to the entire community. Bring your friends and family to enjoy hot dogs and chips, displays from various city departments, and entertainment. Watch your mail for additional information.

City Council Meeting April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Lehner will issue a proclamation for National Volunteer Week. She will also honor a youth volunteer and an adult volunteer with the Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service.



Kettering is home to Volunteer Spirit



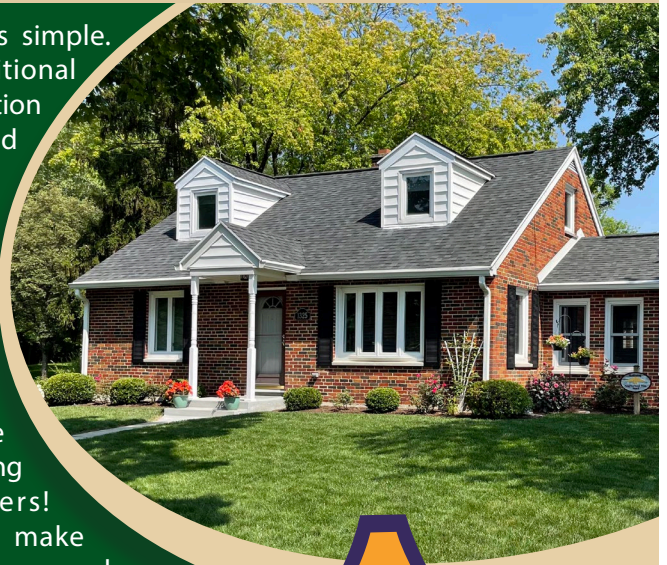
Neighborhood Pride

If you reside in Kettering, you will soon be receiving information about the city's Neighborhood Pride Program. This year marks the 34th anniversary of our program and serves as a wonderful example of the way in which volunteers make a positive impact in our neighborhoods.

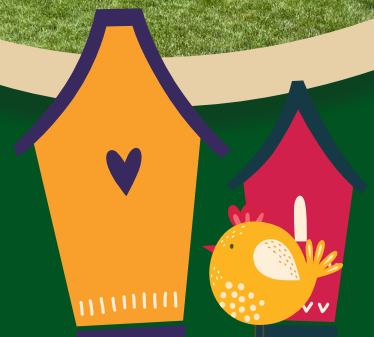
The Neighborhood Pride Award recognizes residents who have made significant improvements to the appearance of their homes or who have maintained their home impeccably year after year. Last summer over 400 properties were nominated for this award. Winners of this prestigious award are recognized publicly at a City Council meeting and an attractive sign is placed in the property owner's front yard.

The nomination process is simple. Watch your mail for additional information and a nomination card. You can complete and return the card by mail, nominate online by visiting www.ketteringoh.org, or contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433. Nominations will be accepted beginning May 1.

This program is made possible by our outstanding committee of volunteers! Thanks for all you do to make Kettering a place so many are proud to call home!



 **KETTERING**
is home
to **Neighborhood Pride**



We are excited to announce the return of the Cities of Service (COS) program for 2022! The pandemic cut the program short in 2020, while focusing on the Van Buren Neighborhood, located within the bordering streets of Patterson Road, Smithville Road, Forrer Boulevard, and Culver Avenue. This is the eighth neighborhood in the COS initiative. The residents in the area will soon be receiving invitations to a neighborhood block party in June.



Additionally, the COS team will be revisiting all past neighborhoods throughout the summer. These visits will provide an opportunity to reconnect, and provide assistance with outdoor maintenance and clean-up. If you reside in a COS neighborhood, we would love to have your input and ideas. Contact the Volunteer Office at 296-2433 or email dawn.kirchner@ketteringoh.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you enjoy working with children? If so, why not consider volunteering to help with summer camps. Camps are offered at the Kettering Recreation Complex, Rosewood Arts Center, and Habitat Environmental Center. Help is needed half days as well as full days. Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older, although some camps may have an age requirement of 16 years or older. This volunteer opportunity serves as an excellent way to earn service credit needed for school activities and gain job experience while having fun with our campers! If you have several activities planned this summer, no worries. You can volunteer all summer, or just a few weeks. We'll work to accommodate your schedule.



If you enjoy meeting people and working outdoors, why not consider joining our dedicated team of volunteers at Fraise Pavilion this summer? Volunteers are asked to work 6 – 8 shows and must be able to stand 2 – 3 hours. Volunteers help welcome and direct guests, and help with item check. There will be a mandatory orientation in May, date to be announced.

Looking for a way to catch up with a friend? Recruit one to volunteer with you, and enjoy a few hours outdoors this spring at the city's free compost site on Stroop Road. Volunteers check the identification of individuals coming to collect garden compost during a 2 to 3 hour shift. This free resource is only available to residents, business owners, and city employees.

Do you have some extra free time in the evening or on weekends as the days get longer? We can use your help with our special events and activities sponsored by our Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Dept. These are great opportunities to assist with activities suited for children and families, and you'll find the time flies! Check out the list of events at: ketteringoh.org/volunteer-special-events

Please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities and would like more information.



Kettering Leadership Academy

The Kettering Leadership Academy (KLA) is currently accepting applications for the 2022 – 2023 class. KLA is designed for people looking to take on leadership roles within our community, such as serving on a board or commission at the City of Kettering, or serving at one of our area non-profit organizations. Applicants are required to live or work in Kettering.

The Academy begins in September with a mandatory overnight retreat at Camp Joy. Sessions are held once a month throughout the year until graduation in May. Topics include Kettering history, local government, community organizations, education, healthcare, business, service clubs, and volunteering. The fee for the Academy is \$650. Many businesses sponsor employees to attend this very worthwhile program. Please contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 for further information.



CITY OF KETTERING

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Kettering Home Page: www.ketteringoh.org

Do Good, Feel Good!

Did you know? Once you've contributed 100 hours of volunteer service you are eligible to receive a 20% discount on fitness, exercise or pool passes, and combination passes (fitness, exercise and pool)? You are also eligible to receive a 20% discount on registered programs as well! In order to take advantage of this discount, contact the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 to request a letter of eligibility to take with you when visiting the Kettering Recreation Complex or Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center. Please note: The discount does not apply to "drop-in" classes or fees.

*"As you grow older,
you will discover that you
have two hands – one for
helping yourself, the other
for helping others."*

–Audrey Hepburn

