

Community Service Packet

Participation In Government

**A Guide to Completing Your Community
Service Requirement**

A DEFINITION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Services volunteered by individuals or an organization through formal or informal consultation with **local nonprofit, governmental, and community-based organizations**, as designed to improve the quality of life for community residents, or to solve related problems to the needs of the community. (Higher Education Acts of 1965/1992/1993)

Examples include such fields as health care, education (including tutorial services), welfare, social services, transportation, housing and neighborhood improvements, public safety, crime prevention and control, recreation, community improvement. (Higher Education Acts of 1965/1992/1993)

The Goal of Community Service:

To give your time to your community to better the life of someone or group of people who are not as fortunate as you are.

How To Complete Your Community Service Requirement

- 1- Research various not for profit organizations
- 2- Choose a non-profit organization that you are interested in
- 3- Get teacher approval prior to contacting agency. A prior approval form must be handed in to your teacher. Any discrepancies must be approved by other Participation in Government teachers in the building.
- 4- Contact the organization to see if there is availability and if there are any requirements for prospective volunteers (remember, you are representing RCK so be polite and respectful at all times!)
- 5- Upon completion of 10 hours of service you are to request a letter from your supervisor simply stating that you have completed 10 hours of service (this letter should be printed on letterhead from your chosen organization and should include contact information). A log can also be completed and signed by your supervisor to fulfill your requirement.

6- Refer to the community service packet for the community service log and follow all directions carefully

7- On the due date submit your complete community service report with your proof of service letter/log stapled together to your teacher.

Do Not's of Community Service:

1- Community Service cannot be done through a church (ex. teaching Sunday school/being an altar server) unless it is an activity that is non-denominational that benefits the community.

2- Community Service cannot be done through an individuals (ex. baby sitting or helping the elderly) unless directed by a non-profit agency or local government.

3- Community Service cannot be done through a profitable agency (businesses) unless the business is participating in a charitable event that benefits the community.

4- Community Service requirements cannot be coupled with requirements from another organization. You cannot use the same hours for National Honor Society and Participation in Government.

5- Community Service cannot be done during the school day. You may start your community service once *your* school day is done.

6. Two hours of community service will be given if a senior participates in a walk for a non-profit organization. More community service hours can be earned if you are volunteering to help the organization at the walk. If you organized a team another hour will be given. Anything else with the walk can be discussed by other Participation in Government teachers in your building.

Local Community Non- Profit Agencies/Organizations

AIDS Related Community Service, Pok	471-0707
Alzheimer's Association, Hudson Valley Chapter	471-2655
American Cancer Society	452-2635
American Diabetes Association	473-4523
American Heart Association, Dutchess Region	462-3905
American Lung Association	1-800-586-4872
American Red Cross of Dutchess County	471-0200
Association for Senior Citizens-Daybreak	473-1265
Astor Home for Children	871-1000
Bardavon 1869 Opera House	471-5288
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Dutchess County	471-2578
Boy Scouts of America	497-7337
Catherine Street Community Center	473-2272
Children's Service Council	471-1900 x119
Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County	677-8223

Dutchess County Community Action Partnership, Inc.	452-5104
Dutchess County Department of Social Services	486-3001
Dutchess County Historical Society	471-1630
Dutchess County Office for the Aging	486-2555
Dutchess County Outreach, Inc.	454-3792
Fire Departments:	
Arlington	486-6300
East Fishkill	226-1652
Garner	297-9022
Hughsonville	297-4194
LaGrange	452-4989
New Hackensack	297-3897
New Hamburg	297-8895
SW Johnson	298-7952
Food Bank of the Hudson Valley	534-5344
Girl Scouts of America	747-3080
Hospice, Inc.	473-2273
Hospitals:	
St. Francis	431-8130
Vassar Brothers Medical Center	431-5664
Hudson River Housing	454-5176
Libraries:	
Adriance Memorial	485-3445
Blodgett Memorial	896-9215
East Fishkill Community	221-9943
Grinnell	297-3428

Local Governments:	
East Fishkill	221-9191
Fishkill (town)	831-7800
Fishkill (village)	897-4431
LaGrange	452-1830
Poughkeepsie (city)	451-4200
Poughkeepsie (town)	485-3600
Wappingers (town)	298-1150
Wappingers (village)	297-8773
March of Dimes – Hudson Valley	454-8850
Meals on Wheels, Poughkeepsie	452-2245
Mental Health Association in Dutchess County	473-2500
Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum	471-0589
National Parks Service	889-4100
Networth/Positive Action (AIDS/HIV Assistance)	1-518-339-2437
Nursing Homes	
Castle Point	831-2000
Hudson Haven	297-3793
Lutheran Care Center at Concord Village	486-9494
Rotary Interact Clubs:	
JJ	897-6700
RCK	298-5100
Salvation Army, Poughkeepsie	471-1210
SPCA	452-7722
State/County Parks:	
Bowdoin Park	298-4600
James Baird State Park	452-1489
Stony Kill Environmental Education Center	831-8780
Van Wyck Homestead	896-9560

United Way, Dutchess County

473-1500 *or*

YMCA

471-1900

471-9622

YWCA

454-6770

Community Service Prior Approval Form

The main goal of this requirement is to generate and promote civic responsibility. Each student must complete 10 hours of unpaid community service.

- Community Service can be done any time after July 1st prior to the student's Senior year.
- No prior approvals will be given after _____
- No completed Community Service forms will be accepted after _____
- Three teachers must agree to any community service not listed in the packet.

STUDENT: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES YOU WILL BE DOING: _____

PARENT PRE-APPROVAL: _____

TEACHER PRE-APPROVAL: _____