Seasons of Service

Seasons of Service, sponsored and promoted by the Points of Light Foundation, is a portfolio of national opportunities for people to volunteer for service projects and activities throughout the year. More than 20 million people volunteer each year to be part of the Seasons of Service—a year-round action plan to illustrate how a single day of service can grow into an ongoing habit of helping communities.

Each day of service is sponsored by a national organization and focuses on a theme that targets a specific group. Building each day of service into your program calendar can promote volunteerism in your community and provide opportunities for project-oriented problem solving, planning, teaching, researching, networking, and increasing community awareness. In addition, you can tap into the national media focus generated by the Points of Light Foundation. The idea is to turn people on to service so they will become life-long volunteers.

Visit http://www.pointsoflight.org for more information on these and other opportunities for service!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Theme: Make it a day on . . . not a day off!
Purpose: To help keep Dr. King’s legacy of service to others alive in communities across the country
Dates: January 19, 2004
January 17, 2005
Sponsors: Corporation for National Service
Points of Light Foundation
Web site: http://www.mlkday.org

National Volunteer Week
Theme: Volunteers Inspire by Example
Purpose: To recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers at the local, state, and national levels
Dates: April 18-24, 2004
April 17-23, 2005
Sponsors: Points of Light Foundation
Web site: http://www.pointsoflight.org/NVW/nvw.cfm
Contact: 1-800-VOLUNTEER
A Day On, NOT a Day Off!

Seasons of Service

Join Hands Day
Theme: Youth and Adults Volunteering Together
Purpose: To bring young people together with adults to create new and better relationships by working as a team within their own neighborhoods
Dates: May 1, 2004 May 5, 2007
May 7, 2005 May 3, 2008
May 6, 2006
Sponsors: America’s Fraternal Benefit Societies in partnership with Points of Light Foundation
Web site: http://www.joinhandsday.org

One Day’s Pay
Theme: To honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks on America through a voluntarily observed national day of service, charity, and compassion
Purpose: To encourage people everywhere to set aside time every September 11 to help others in need—in any fashion they deem appropriate—in honor of those who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against America
Dates: September 11, 2004
September 11, 2005
Sponsors: One Day’s Pay in partnership with Points of Light Foundation, Youth Service America, and Citizen Corps
Web site: http://www.onedayspay.org

Kids Care Week
Theme: Celebrate Kids Making a Difference in Their Community
Purpose: To recognize the power of kids to reach out and help others in their communities
Dates: October 17-23, 2004
(culminates on Make a Difference Day)
Sponsors: Points of Light Foundation
Web site: http://www.kidscare.org
A Day On, NOT a Day Off!

Seasons of Service

Make a Difference Day
Theme: A national day to help others!
Purpose: To inspire and reward volunteers. Everyone who helps others on this day and submits an entry form is eligible for a national or a local award and for a cash donation to a charitable cause. Every award recipient will appear in USA WEEKEND Magazine and on the Make a Difference Day Web site.
Dates: October 23, 2005
October 22, 2006
Sponsors: USA WEEKEND Magazine
Points of Light Foundation
Web site: http://www.makeadifferenceday.com

National Family Volunteer Day
Theme: My Family Matters — We Volunteer!
Purpose: To call families across America to work together in volunteer service to strengthen their families, communities, local businesses, and non-profit organizations
Dates: November 20, 2004
November 19, 2005
Sponsors: Points of Light Foundation
Alliance for Children and Families
Web site: http://www.pointsoflight.org/organizations/nfvd.cfm
A Day On, NOT a Day Off!

Seasons of Service

National Youth Service Day

Theme: The Power of Youth Serving Youth
Purpose: To empower young people, highlighting their on-going contributions to their communities and mobilizing their energy, commitment, and idealism through sustainable service
Dates: April 16-28, 2004
Sponsors: Youth Service America
National Youth Leadership Council
Parade Magazine
State Farm Companies Foundation
62 national partner organizations
Web site: http://www.ysa.org/nysd

Tennessee 4-H Youth Development was selected as a 2004 National Youth Service Day Lead Agency!

As a Lead Agency, Tennessee 4-H is committed to mobilizing 1000 volunteers in 30 service projects on National Youth Service Day, April 16-18, 2004.

4-H groups can partner with other organizations, businesses, schools, churches, civic groups, AmeriCorps members, Chambers of Commerce to mobilize young people and meet needs in the community. Also consider local affiliates of national partner organizations, such as Boys & Girls Clubs, Lions Club, March of Dimes, SADD, Special Olympics, Veterans of Foreign Wars, YMCA, and YWCA.

Tennessee 4-H needs to know about your planned projects for NYSD 2004. We will forward the plans to Youth Service America and SERVEnet, so that they can be posted on a national database. People of all ages can search the national database to find projects in their area, so it’s a great way for 4-H groups to recruit volunteers and receive recognition for their projects.

For more information and to report your NYSD project plan, visit the NYSD section of the 4-H Seeds of Service Web site at www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/sos/nysd.