

Clean Up – Give Back .Org

Official and Court-Ordered Service Program for Members



Members of Clean Up – Give Back can take advantage of our “Flexible Service Program.” Earn community service hours around your own schedule, in your own neighborhood and join community cleanups as you have opportunity. We monitor your hours, and report to the courts. **We only take ethical participants who are members**, meaning those who have **joined our organization, support our mission, and receive our monthly newsletter**. We would love to help everyone, but there are lots of resources dedicated to monitoring, and joining our members on their cleanups when possible, and we do not currently have the resources to help everyone that needs service hours. (Lifetime membership donation is \$25, or students \$12.50. If you want to be a member but cannot afford the membership fee, please contact us regarding waiving the fee). All membership donations received for court-ordered service go to support this program with supplies, etc. Feel free to call or text us at 847-224-8592 with any questions/concerns.

We view the work, the completion of hours, and court reporting as a partnership. Please think about the areas you would be willing to help, and choose places that you, your family or neighbors will benefit from your service – parks, forest preserves and community centers are good places to focus on. The point is to pick places that you feel good about helping. We hope that when your service is over, you’ll continue to be a friend of Clean Up – Give Back, so we work to make this partnership a good one.

Easy Program Guidelines – you can start working immediately:

1. To start the program **send a text or email** with (your Name as recorded in court, # of Hours needed and Date for completion), also if you are not in Cook County, please inform us. At the end, we will send you the “Completion Letter” by EMAIL of your hours for the court in pdf format, but we can mail it to you to take to court if you are not able to print it.
2. **Each time you go out**, at least 10 minutes before starting, **send us a text of where you are cleaning** and how long you expect to be there. (We may join you if our schedules allow, but we have to be able to monitor and have the opportunity to drive by. We cannot always drive by, but we need to have the opportunity to do so to fulfill court responsibilities. We also have volunteers in many different areas). **You need to wear your vest!!!** as we have met with several police departments who ask that the vest be worn for safety, and you are helping to promote our non-profit’s work when you wear the vest and we appreciate you wearing it. If you happen to be out and forgot your vest, just let us know.
3. **You can start immediately by texting us, walking out your door with a glove and trash bag and doing a “walk-n-clean” in your neighborhood.** It’s that easy to start. When you have completed your work for any day you work, text or email a picture of your bags to 847-224-8592 or info@cleanupgiveback.org stating the number of hours completed for the day and your total hours completed to date. Your text should say something like, “Completed _ hours, my total hours completed are __ hours.” This way we have a running record we can agree on regarding completed hours, not waiting until you need the “Completion Letter.”
4. We schedule community cleanups that count for three service hours. **If we have a scheduled community campaign on our website and you have hours to complete, you should participate if possible.** You are welcome to bring friends and family. We specifically report COMMUNITY cleanup campaigns to the court and it shows your willingness to help Clean Up – Give Back .Org. If you are not able to join these community campaigns because of work or school schedule, the judge understands, and flexibility is probably one of the reasons the judge pointed you to Clean Up – Give Back in the first place.

What we do:

1. We provide a vest, grabber, some gloves and a few garbage bags, a brochure and business card if you did not get one from the court. If you join a cleanup campaign, supplies will be given to you there. If you want to get started right away, just text/call Donna at 847-224-8592 or email info@cleanupgiveback.org and we can co-ordinate a place to meet and get you supplies.
2. We monitor your hours and your progress. There is no need to keep a log or join a third party if all your hours are through Clean Up – Give Back. We may join you on some cleanups as time allow. We work directly with as many people as we can, but we cannot always be out, as participants can go out any hours including early mornings and after work, until dark.
3. We provide a court **“Completion Letter” to you by EMAIL in pdf format**, as soon as you have completed the requirements.
4. We are available to speak with probation officers or court workers.

Other ways to help our organization and get hours:

You can balance trash cleanup with helping with Clean Up – Give Back in other ways -- called Marketing -- getting up to 50% of your hours in this way. We appreciate all the different ways you help our non-profit to grow and expand. Many courts do not allow “on-line marketing” and neither do we. We do allow for you to market to friends and family using phone, email and social media. We monitor Marketing hours, and award service hours for results, not efforts. (For example, you spend time asking someone to sign up for a newsletter, but if they do not, you are not awarded hours for time spent asking them.)

Ways of getting hours that are flexible and really help our mission:

- **Bring a friend – get an hour.** Each time you go out, you get a “recruiting” hour if you bring a friend. For example, if you go out for 3 hours to clean and bring your friend or child, you get 1 hour for each volunteer that comes with you. Bringing a friend or loved gets them to learn about our mission and become involved.
- **Yelp or Google Review.** As Clean Up – Give Back needs marketing, after you have done at least one cleanup, you can do a Yelp Review or a Google Review to earn one Marketing hour each. You have to be honest in your review and we are good with that! Most people only use their first name or nickname.
- **Newsletter Email Marketing to friends and family.** We are in need of Marketing and have no advertising budget. Your efforts really help us. You are awarded one Marketing hour for each 4 people you get to visit our website and sign up for our free newsletter. It is easy to sign up. They put their email in and hit return. (Estimates show it takes about 15 minutes to get one person to sign up.) Mass marketing is not allowed, this is for friends, family and acquaintances – people you know to sign up.
- **Facebook Marketing.** For each 4 people you get to like our Facebook page you are awarded one Marketing hour. (Current estimates show it takes 15 minutes to get one person to like a Facebook page.)
- **Facebook Post review.** You can earn one hour by visiting our Facebook and spend an hour reviewing videos and posts and hitting “Share”.
- **Full Website Review.** You can earn an hour by reviewing all our content on the website. This makes you very aware of our mission and goals so that you can discuss our work with others in the future.
- **Snapchat and Instagram.** You can send pictures from our website, blog or Facebook to friends, or send your own selfies. Track the time you spend telling your friends about our organization and making them aware, and you get hours awarded.
- **Be Creative.** You may think of other ways to help us, such as posting in groups or placing flyers in community places, sending letters or emails to businesses or clubs asking them to support Clean Up – Give Back with donations or trash bags, etc. Any idea you have is good and your hours spent on these efforts will count toward Marketing Hours. One person made a flyer and took it to their work, awarded three hours. One person set up a meeting to discuss our work with a community leader, three hours awarded, one individual sent an email we developed to several companies and earned 10 hours during their lunch breaks. All efforts are appreciated and all ideas help us.

Other Considerations:

Lifetime Membership (\$25, or \$12.50 student) on our website. 100% of the membership donations go to provide cleanup campaign opportunities to others, and to support our “Flexible Service Program” providing flexibility to those who really need it. Thank you for your consideration and for helping the community and the environment through cleanup efforts.

Sincerely,

Clean Up – Give Back .Org