PRESS RELEASE
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CONTACT: Gayle LaVictoire
Volunteer Outreach Coordinator
734.794.6230 ext. 42510
glavictoire@a2gov.org
www.a2gov.org/volunteer

NEW VOLUNTEER OUTREACH PROGRAM DEBUTS

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 3, 2011 — A new program was launched this week through the City of Ann Arbor’s Parks & Recreation Services under the leadership of Gayle LaVictoire, Volunteer Outreach Coordinator for the new GIVE 365 Program.

The GIVE 365 Program was created to build upon the culture of volunteerism the city has established through programs like Natural Area Preservation and Adopt-A-Park. The main goal is to establish a volunteer program that assists with the maintenance of recreation facilities and playing fields.

“We have volunteer opportunities like the new Friends of the Fields program in which volunteers will be assisting in maintaining five of the city’s ball fields,” said LaVictoire. “By helping maintain the ball fields, we hope to improve the user experience and create a sense of ownership for the fields by both users and volunteers.”

Other opportunities include spring and summer start ups at city pools and canoe liveries, volunteer golf rangers at both Leslie and Huron Hills golf courses, assisting with the newsletters at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market and Ann Arbor Senior Center, and for teens ages 13 to 17, becoming a Counselor-in-Training at one of our three day camps.

“Providing volunteer experiences at city recreation facilities and playing fields is a natural extension of the popular Adopt-A-park program, so we’re excited to launch the GIVE 365 Program,” said Colin Smith, Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Manager.

To learn more about the program and to sign up for individual or group volunteer opportunities, http://www.a2gov.org/volunteer or call LaVictoire at 734.794.6230 ext. 42510.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, learn, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (http://twitter.com/a2parks) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/annarborparks). The city’s mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

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