

Third Annual VFW Day of Service is Coming Soon

Growing on the success of the previous two events, the VFW Day of Service is scheduled for May 4

Mar 13, 2024

VFW Posts around the country are amping up for the third annual VFW Day of Service on May 4. That date kicks off a month of veteran-led community service projects.

The Day of Service is an outgrowth of the VFW's #StillServing initiative that launched in 2020 and has since brought recognition to how much U.S. military veterans continue to serve in their communities after they take off their uniform.

By concentrating on veteran-led community service projects on this day, and throughout the month of May, the VFW intends to bring focus to the role veterans play in the well-being of their communities and surrounding areas.

"We hope to harness the momentum of our last two events to make the third annual Day of Service the best yet in terms of participation and impact," VFW Director of Communications Randi Law said. "Through this event, not only have our members contributed in countless, meaningful ways to their communities, but they've had a lot of fun doing it. Our hope is the event continues to grow for years to come."

VFW's second annual Day of Service in 2023 grew its total number of grassroots events by more than 20 percent from the first year. VFW Posts in all 50 states, as well as those in Europe, Guam, Asia and Puerto Rico, participated last year.

Much as Veterans Day commemorations take place throughout the month of November, the VFW Day of Service kicks off on the first Saturday in May.

The VFW asks that VFW members, all veterans and others visit <u>VFWDayofService.org</u> to register their events on the interactive Day of Service map and receive a special participation decal and/or find a local event to join and see what veterans around the country are doing to make a difference.

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VFW Day of Service events are community service focused, so it is up to you and your Post to identify what your community needs. Whatever Day of Service project you and your members decide upon will qualify. However, "Buddy" Poppy, recruiting and events which raise monetary donations do not qualify as a Day of Service event.

Below are some examples of community service events:

- Drives food, personal hygiene products, diapers
- Home repair
- Street / park / cemetery / vacant lot clean-up
- Health fairs
- Houseless to home support
- Playground rehab / installation
- Accessibility initiatives

The photos you see here are some fine examples of work done during the 2023 VFW Day of Service. For more information about VFW Day of Service, contact <u>info@todaysvfw.org</u>.

This article is featured in the 2024 March issue of <u>VFW magazine</u>, and was written by <u>Janie Dyhouse</u>, senior editor for VFW magazine.