

The Getting is in the Giving... Ways to Give within Your Community

By Emmy Moore Minister

Have you ever wanted to "give something back" within your local community, but weren't sure just where to start? Being a volunteer is tough to do sometimes, especially with the constant time-crunch we're under and the demanding workloads we carry.

Solution: Here's a list of community outreach projects for you to consider. Most any one of them can be accomplished in a relatively short block of time. Besides helping others, you may be surprised to find these outreach endeavors will also fuel your spirit.

- Contact teachers at a nearby grammar school and see if they'd be interested in setting up a habitat field trip for their class. The destination, your course.
- Consider giving a speech at a Rotary Club meeting. This organization is always looking for folks with interesting jobs who have knowledge to share. Rotarians often play golf and want to learn more about the game and its surroundings.
- If water's your thing, contact your local water district to see if they're looking for individuals to serve on a panel or outreach committee. In addition, some agencies provide classes on water conservation for teachers and students, with a need for volunteers that can help share the message.
- Consider teaching or taking a community college class on a topic you are passionate about, work related or otherwise.
- Discover a worthy charity, and set up a small fundraiser to benefit the cause.

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