

2011 Youth and Teen Volunteer Corps

Commonly asked Questions:

1. How many hours do I have to volunteer to be a part of the program?

You can volunteer for as many or as few hours as you wish. Your commitment to the program will begin and end with the volunteer opportunities you sign up for.

2. How do I know what I am volunteering for?

We have weekly meetings on Mondays to sign up for the volunteer opportunities. The sign-up sheet will include Tuesday (the next day) through Monday (the day of the next meeting).

The Monday meetings will take place at the Community Building located at 95th and Gaylord (next to City Park Pool).

We will line up by last name. We will rotate alphabetically to sign up as follows:

June 6th - start with P

July 11th - start with H

June 13th - start with T

July 18th - start with K

June 20th - start with W

July 25th - start with N

June 27th - start with Z

August 1st - start with P

**July 5th - start with D

August 8th - start with T

***Due to the July 4th holiday, we will be having our meeting on Tuesday this week only!*

At the beginning of each sign-up meeting you will be given a piece of paper that will describe each activity offered that week along with the day and time. Please look this over while you wait so when you get to the front of the line you will have your questions ready as well as preferences. Space is limited for each activity, so please have a first and second choice option. We do our best to try to accommodate everyone- please be patient and understanding with this process. This piece of paper also serves as a reminder to you as to what you signed up for.

3. When and where are the weekly meetings?

Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Building (95th & Gaylord)

4. What if I can not make a meeting?

The sign-up sheets are filled on a first-come-first-served basis.

If you can not make a meeting, it is your responsibility to call Shawn, Anna, or Wes to see what is available. We can not sign you up prior to the meeting.

5. How do I get in touch with Shawn, Anna, or David?

You can call the Community Center Front Desk to leave a message (303-255-7830)

6. How much does the program cost?

The program itself is free. We do however go on a few social outings which will cost the fee of whatever activity we are doing. (For example going to the movies)

7. What do I need to bring with me when I volunteer?

You need to bring food, water, and sunscreen. Depending on how long you are volunteering, you need to bring the appropriate amount of food and water. Never leave home without sunscreen! If you are volunteering for four or more hours, please bring a well-balanced meal.

**If you are volunteering for school or another organization that requires documentation of your volunteer hours, you need to bring your booklet or paper to be signed EACH day you volunteer.

8. How old do you have to be to volunteer?

The Thornton Youth and Teen Volunteer Corps accepts youth between the ages of 11 and 18, however, some places we may go may have age restrictions of their own. For example, the Thornton Adventure Club (our summer day camp) can only take volunteers 13 years old and older because we take paid participants up to the age of 12 years old.

9. What about transportation?

The participants and their parents are responsible for getting the volunteers to and from the Thornton Community Center. Once at the Community Center, the Volunteer Corps staff will transport the volunteers in City vehicles, City rented vehicles, or the RTD Call-N-Ride to and from the volunteer work.

10. Can we purchase additional T-shirts?

The City of Thornton provides ONE t-shirt for every volunteer. This T-shirt will be provided to each volunteer at their first volunteer commitment that they "work". If volunteers would like additional T-shirts, they can be purchased for \$7.

11. How many volunteers can participate in each activity?

The number of volunteers may vary for each activity. Many times we are limited by the number of people we can transport. Sometimes, the organization we are visiting will limit the number of volunteers we bring. The Adventure Club and Portable Playground programs are limited to 2 volunteers per day.

12. What is the staff to participant ratio?

This is again dictated by the number of volunteers we can take on a particular activity. The average would be 1 to 8 and the most would be 1 to 14.

13. What if I sign up for a volunteer activity, but can not make it?

If you are signed up for an activity and can not make it, it is YOUR responsibility to call the front desk of the Community Center (303-255-7830) to inform staff that you are unable to attend. This serves 2 purposes. One is that there might be other people interested and we can fill your spot (so it is important to give us as much notice as possible). The second is so that we are not waiting around for you to show and making us late to our destination.

14. What if I am volunteering for hours for school?

If you are using this program to fulfill your hour requirement for school or another program, please bring your paperwork with you EACH time you volunteer so that staff can complete the paperwork the SAME DAY as your volunteer hours. This is YOUR responsibility to make sure it gets completed.

15. Supervision-

The City of Thornton will provide supervision during transportation and the volunteer project. If you need to drop off your teen prior to the start time of the project, or can not pick up your teen until after their return time, the Youth and Teen Volunteer Corps staff will not be supervising your teen.

The Thornton Teen Center is located in the Community Center (2211 Eppinger Boulevard). This center is open to youth ages 11-18 years of age in 6th-12th grade. The fees for this center are \$3/year for residents and \$5/year for nonresidents. This will buy your teen a Teen Center ID Card. You may then use this center free of charge. This center is supervised by a staff member and offers activities such as pool, ping-pong, air hockey, Sony PlayStation, Wii and a computer lab. This is a great way to have your teen supervised and having fun in between volunteer projects.