



Make A Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Everyone can participate. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine, Make A Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. The next event is Saturday, October 28, 2006.

Millions have participated. In 2005, 3 million people cared enough about their communities to volunteer on that day, accomplishing thousands of projects in hundreds of towns.

Your project can be as large or as small as you wish! Look around your community and see what needs to be done. Or let the [Idea Generator](#) help you find a project idea to help your community.

After participating Oct. 28, please send in an [entry form](#) so you will be counted among the millions of volunteers and be considered for an award.

Use these ideas from past Make A Difference Day projects to help you brainstorm projects that your school can do involving a volunteering project that includes cleanups or the environment:

FOCUS ON TOXIC WASTE: Madison County Special Waste Task Force In Arkansas collected oil, paint, batteries and pesticides in an effort to keep toxic waste out of landfills.

RECYCLE: In West Virginia, 300 students and teachers from Princeton Senior High School donated 1,400 canned foods and \$60 -- raised from recycling aluminum cans -- to five food pantries.

CLEAN A NEEDY NEIGHBOR'S YARD: Prosperity School sixth-graders filled a dumpster with weeds and debris from a 94-year-old's yard in Hutchinson, Kan.

HOST A CLEANUP: A dozen ninth- to 12th-graders and two teachers from the Sant Bani School in Sanbornton, N.H., did various service projects in their hometowns, including cleanups and calligraphy.