



West Willow 2022 Community Activities New West Willow Neighborhood Association & Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley



Mask and COVID Test Kits Giveaway

On Saturday February 5, 2022 we helped out as the Washtenaw County Health Department and the New West Willow Neighborhood Association partnered up to give out hundreds of COVID-19 home test kits and KN95 face masks at the West Willow Community Center. We also made home deliveries of items to folks who couldn't make it to the center.



May 20-21, 2022: West Willow Spring Beautification Weekend, 9-1 on 5/20, 9-4 on 5/21

During the May 20-21, 2022 weekend, 38 volunteers from DTE, the West Willow neighborhood, Women Build, Ypsilanti Township staff, and other areas contributed 182.5 hours of service in West Willow. We filled over four dumpsters donated by Waste Management at New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church with items that residents wanted to purge, and we counted 93 loads that were either dropped off or picked up from residents! We had a local resident who picked up all scrap metal items, so that made for extra space in the dumpsters. On Saturday, an Ypsilanti Township employee brought their front-end loader to pack down the dumpsters, making even more space. We also distributed neighborhood information and resources at the dumpster site, and on Saturday we were joined by a UM graduate nursing student who gave out COVID at-home test kits. On Friday, in addition to assisting with the dumpster drop offs and pick-ups, volunteers removed the three Little Free Libraries in the neighborhood (in preparation to install two new ones soon). On Saturday, 26 volunteers planted vegetables in the Community Garden; assisted with dumpster item drop offs and pick-ups; weeded flower beds and planted new flowers at the Community Center, neighborhood entrance signs and West Willow Park; and did general yard clean-up around the Community Center.



June 18, 2022: West Willow Farmers Market Kick-Off and Community Open House, 11-2

Over 300 community members stopped by the West Willow Farmers Market Kick-Off and Community Open House event on Saturday June 18. The weather was perfect, and the atmosphere was amazing! Local vendors sold out of their products, a delicious taco truck was super busy all day, kids enjoyed a petting zoo, bounce house and fire truck, and community partners from the Fire Department, Common Cycle, Promote the Vote, Friends in Deed, 2Marines, and US Army shared local resources and information. DTE sponsored the event by providing \$10 in market dollars to the first 200 residents that could be spent at any of the vendors! West Willow resident Josh McAllister spearheaded the idea and made it come to life. Local youth were also engaged through a paid summer program in partnership with the New West Willow Neighborhood Association, Journey of Faith Christian Church, and 2Marines.



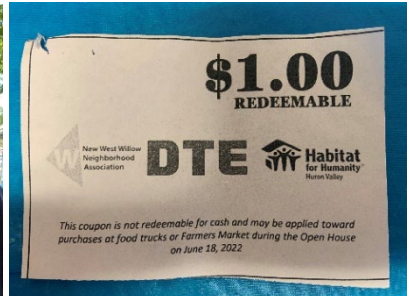
West Willow
FAMILY & COMMUNITY

COME AND CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH WITH US!

JOIN US JUNE 18TH 2022

OPENING DAY!

**2057 TYLER RD
YPSILANTI, MI 48198**





West Willow Farmers Markets

We attended the West Willow Farmers Markets on July 30 and August 27 to share information about Habitat’s programs, collect Porch Replacement Program applications, and support the community vendors.



October 8, 2022: West Willow Fall Neighborhood Beautification Day, 9-1

On a chilly Saturday October 8 morning, over 40 volunteers showed up for the West Willow Neighborhood Beautification Day. Collectively they contributed over 170 hours in cleaning and organizing inside the community center, scraping and staining the entrance ramp, power washing the pavilion floor and other areas, clearing out the community garden and flower beds and one of the storage sheds, building and installing two Little Free Libraries, and lopping of LOTS of vegetation around the center. Thrivent sponsored lunch, which was catered by two local businesses: No Label Juice and Shawarma Valley.

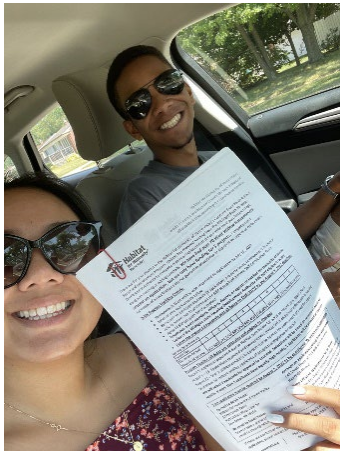


This was a huge community effort sponsored and supported by the New West Willow Neighborhood Association, West Willow residents, Mathematica Policy Research, Thrivent, University of Michigan Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor Foundation, DTE, and Delux Rental.

See all photos from the spring and fall Beautification Days here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqizRjHq>

West Willow Concrete Front Porch & Handrail Replacement Program & UM Future Public Health Leaders Program

We were a host site for two students participating in the University of Michigan's Future Public Health Leaders Program for the summer. O'philia Le and Billy Quick worked with us on all aspects of the MSHDA grant that we were awarded to complete three concrete front porch and handrail repairs/replacements in West Willow. O'philia and Billy helped create program guidelines, application documents, and participant surveys. They represented Habitat at community events to market the program and delivered over 50 applications door-to-door to West Willow residents.



O'philia & Billy



1415 Glengrove Before



1415 Glengrove After



971 Nash Before



971 Nash After



1169 Buick Before



1169 Buick After

Adient Exterior Home Improvement Day

On Friday October 28, 2022 we welcomed nine Adient volunteers at the home of 92-year-old navy veteran, Mr. Paulson, to help with yard work. Habitat's Community Development and Home Improvement Programs assist older homeowners with tasks that are harder for them to complete on their own as they age. Through the years, Habitat has also provided Mr. Paulson with a new roof, water heater, windows and insulation, allowing him to stay safely and comfortably housed in his own West Willow home. We cleared out lots of overgrown vegetation, mowed the lawn, raked leaves, cleaned weeds out of the driveway and sidewalk, and planted flower bulbs donated by the wife of one of the volunteers. She also sent a Thank You card for upcoming Veteran's Day, which we all signed and left for Mr. Paulson. Our UM School of Social work intern, Claire Marks-Wilt, organized activities and led volunteers during the day. View all of the day's photos here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAdpab>



The Township had issued a citation for overgrown vegetation, and we were able to take care of that so Mr. Paulson does not have to pay a fine.



Side yard before and after



Back yard before and after

Poverty Reduction Collaborative

Sarah Teare and Jo Ann McCollum are participating in a Poverty Reduction Collaborative that is being organized by Friends in Deed. Friends in Deed has seen success with their Circles Program in getting people out of poverty, and they wanted to talk about larger strategies to really find out why people are unable to get out of poverty and how we can help break down barriers. We are meeting monthly with partners from Child Care Network, Peace Neighborhood Center, SOS, and developing next steps.

Trunk or Treat 2023

Our UM School of Social Work intern, Claire Mark-Wilt created a graphic for the 2023 West Willow Trunk or Treat event. The image was used on flyers, social media, and a large sign at the Community Resource Center.

