



Press Release

Contact: Mayor Bob McCaslin
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 5, 2011

Mayor McCaslin Seeks Volunteer Hours for 2011 Volunteer of the Year Community Award

Bentonville, AR.....Thanks to the generosity of 10,614 volunteers from 45 organizations that worked 163,672 hours, the City of Bentonville was recognized as a 2010 Volunteer community of the Year. These hours are valued at more than \$3 million, and represent a generous gift to our community. The Volunteer Community of the Year Awards, co-sponsored by the DHS Division of Volunteerism, the Arkansas Municipal League and the Office of the Governor are presented each fall. They are designed to congratulate and thank communities as a whole for their volunteer effort in serving their neighbors.

Mayor McCaslin and his staff plan to submit an application to nominate the City of Bentonville for the 2011 Volunteer Community of the Year award. The deadline for submitting the application is fast approaching and we have had minimal response to our requests asking organizations and volunteers to provide their volunteer hours. We will not be able to submit an application, if we do not receive this information. Every organization and every individual's volunteer data is very important to us. Mayor McCaslin said, "I know we have thousands of citizens who dedicate a good portion of their lives to helping others. These citizens know first-hand how tremendously gratifying it is to be of service to those in need. They participate in and support numerous activities sponsored by their churches, corporate offices and other civic and social clubs. I believe the Volunteer Community of the Year would be an excellent tribute to their good deeds."

The application requires an answer to the following questions:

1. Your organization's total number of volunteers
2. Total number of hours worked
3. Brief description of each event or activity

The Arkansas Municipal League has granted special permission to include those volunteer hours donated by Bentonville organizations and residents to aid the victims of the Joplin tornado in the 2011 application. Individuals are also encouraged to submit their volunteer hours contributed outside of clubs and organizations.

To be included in the 2011 application, the volunteer hours performed must have taken place in Bentonville during the period of September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011. Danielle Shasteen, Community Programs coordinator, who is heading up this effort, urges everyone to stand up and be counted, saying "Don't let the good you've done for your community go unnoticed."

Please submit your volunteer hours to City of Bentonville by September 2, 2011. Submitting your volunteer hours is quite simple and should only take a brief few minutes; please contact Danielle Shasteen at (479) 271-6827 or via email at dshasteen@bentonvillar.com.

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