



Citizenship in the Community

Troop 344 and 9344
Pemberville, OH





Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge Requirements

1. Discuss with your counselor what citizenship in the community means and what it takes to be a good citizen in your community. Discuss the rights, duties, and obligations of citizenship, and explain how you can demonstrate good citizenship in your community, Scouting unit, place of worship, or school.
2. Do the following:
 - a. On a map of your community or using an electronic device, locate and point out the following:
 1. Chief government buildings such as your city hall, county courthouse, and public works/services facility
 2. Fire station, police station, and hospital nearest your home
 3. Parks, playgrounds, recreation areas, and trails
 4. Historical or other interesting points of interest
 - b. Chart the organization of your local or state government. Show the top offices and tell whether they are elected or appointed.



Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge Requirements

3. Do the following:
 - a. Attend a meeting of your city, town, or county council or school board; OR a municipal; county, or state court session.
 - b. Choose one of the issues discussed at the meeting where a difference of opinions was expressed, and explain to your counselor why you agree with one opinion more than you do another one.

4. Choose an issue that is important to the citizens of your community; then do the following:
 - a. Find out which branch of local government is responsible for this issue.
 - b. With your counselor's and a parent's approval, interview one person from the branch of government you identified in requirement 4a. Ask what is being done about this issue and how young people can help.
 - c. Share what you have learned with your counselor.



Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge Requirements

5. With the approval of your counselor and a parent, watch a movie that shows how the actions of one individual or group of individuals can have a positive effect on a community. Discuss with your counselor what you learned from the movie about what it means to be a valuable and concerned member of the community.
6. List some of the services (such as the library, recreation center, public transportation, and public safety) your community provides that are funded by taxpayers. Tell your counselor why these services are important to your community.



Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge Requirements

7. Do the following:

- a. Identify three charitable organizations outside of Scouting that interest you and bring people in your community together to work for the good of your community.
- b. Pick ONE of the organizations you chose for requirement 7a. Using a variety of resources (including newspapers, fliers and other literature, the Internet, volunteers, and employees of the organization), find out more about this organization.
- c. With your counselor's and your parent's approval, contact the organization you chose for requirement 7b and find out what young people can do to help. While working on this merit badge, volunteer at least eight hours of your time for the organization. After your volunteer experience is over, discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

8. Develop a public presentation (such as a video, slide show, speech, digital presentation, or photo exhibit) about important and unique aspects of your community. Include information about the history, cultures, and ethnic groups of your community; its best features and popular places where people gather; and the challenges it faces. Stage your presentation in front of your merit badge counselor or a group, such as your patrol or a class at school.

Requirement 1



Discuss with your counselor what citizenship in the community means and what it takes to be a good citizen in your community. Discuss the rights, duties, and obligations of citizenship, and explain how you can demonstrate good citizenship in your community, Scouting unit, place of worship, or school.





Citizenship in the Community

- What is a community?
 - A community is a group of people living in a particular area who share:
 - Common characteristics.
 - Interests.
 - Activities.
 - Purposes.
 - Group can be as small as a family living together in an apartments.
 - Group can be as large as a population of a sprawling metropolitan area.

Citizenship in the Community

- Communities within Communities
 - The United States is a patchwork of communities.
 - Family
 - Neighborhood
 - School
 - Scout troop
 - Club
 - Team
 - Worship group
 - City



Citizenship in the Community

- Self-Governance
 - In the US, Citizens help make decisions about their community.
 - Elect local officials.



Rights, Duties, Obligations

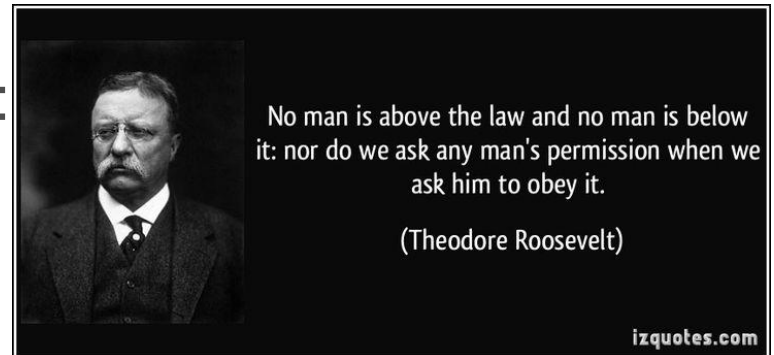
- Rights, Duties, and Obligations of an American Citizen

- Rights:

- Freedoms guaranteed by the US Constitution.
- Full protection from Federal, state, and local laws.
- Support from local service departments (fire, police, sanitation).

- Duties, and Obligations:

- Pay Taxes.
- Obeying the law.
- Value others' opinions.
- Staying informed about candidates and issues.
- Respecting elected officials.



Demonstrating Citizenship

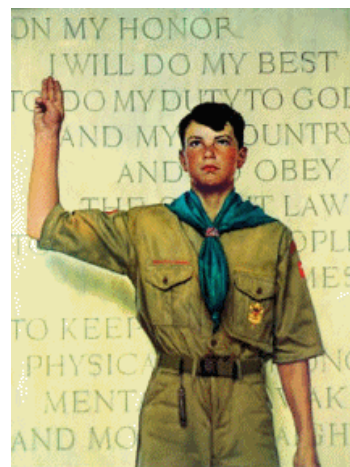
- Rights, Duties, and Obligations – Scout Unit

- Rights:

- Express your opinions.
- Try new skills.
- Hang out with friends.
- Be safe.

- Duties, and Obligations:

- Honor your parents.
- Respect adult leaders.
- Respect fellow scouts.
- Help one another.
- Follow the rules.



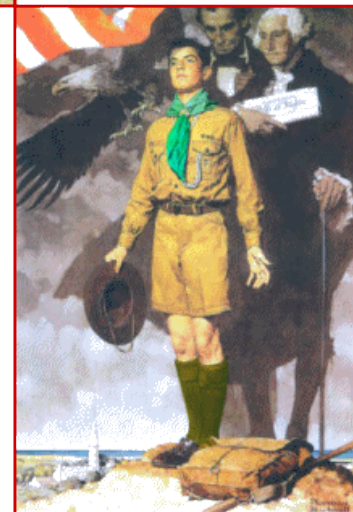
Scout Oath

*On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.*

Scout Law

A Scout is:

*Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent*





Demonstrating Citizenship

- Rights, Duties, and Obligations – Place of Worship
 - What are your rights?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - What are your duties, and obligations
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?



Demonstrating Citizenship

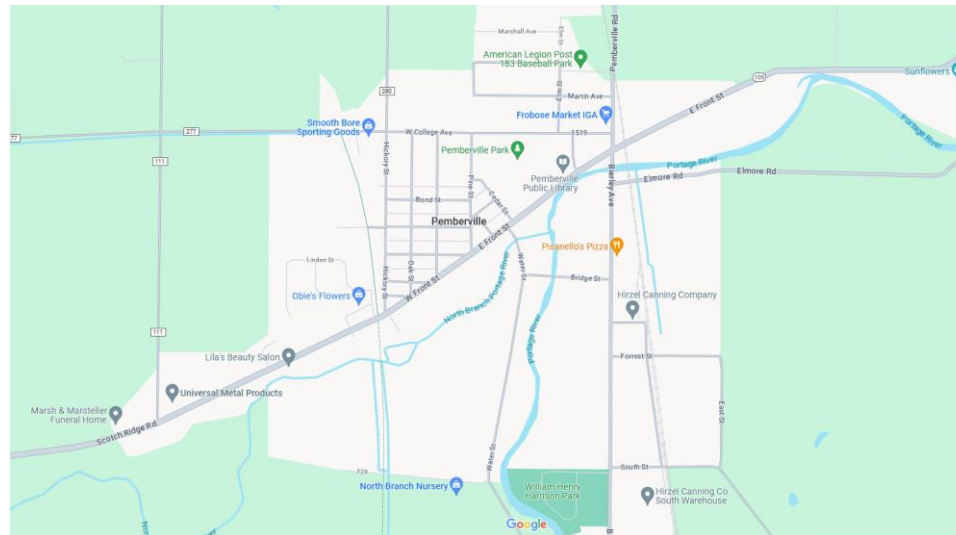
- Rights, Duties, and Obligations – School
 - What are your rights?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - What are your duties, and obligations
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?
 - ?

Requirement 2

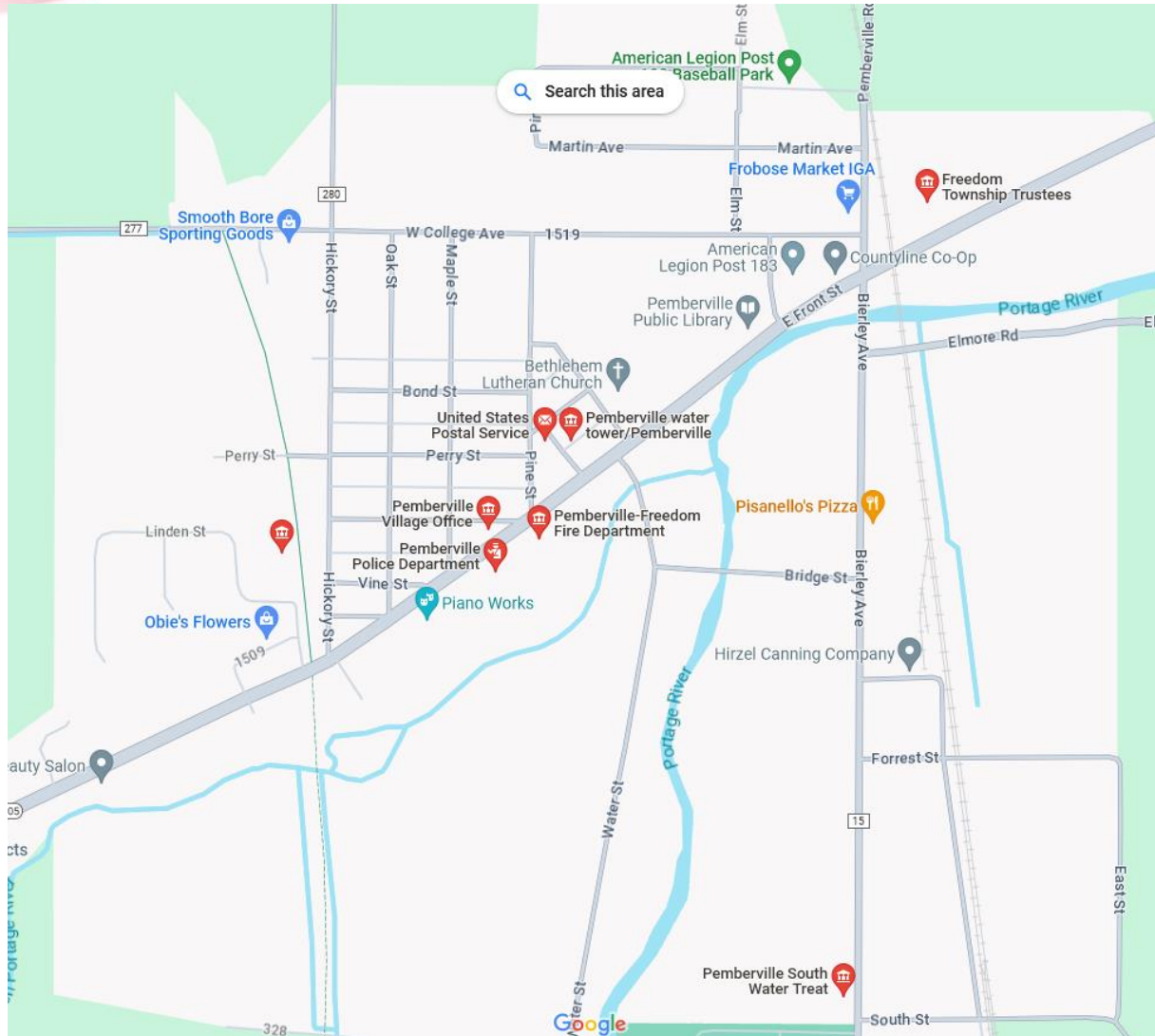


Do the following:

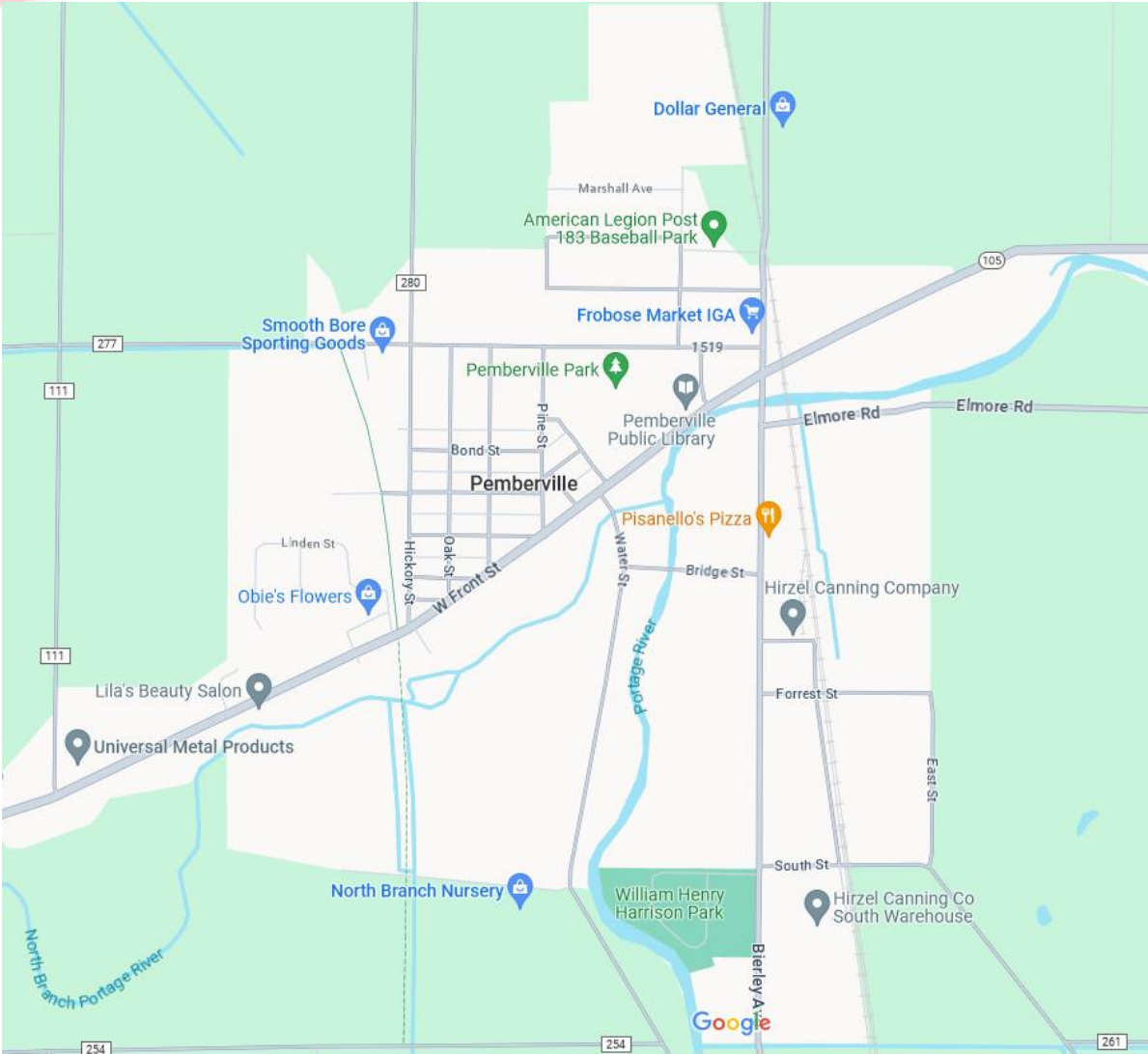
- a. On a map of your community or using an electronic device, locate and point out the following:
 1. Chief government buildings such as your city hall, county courthouse, and public works/services facility.
 2. Fire station, police station, and hospital nearest your home.
 3. Parks, playgrounds, recreation areas, and trails.
 4. Historical or other interesting points of interest.



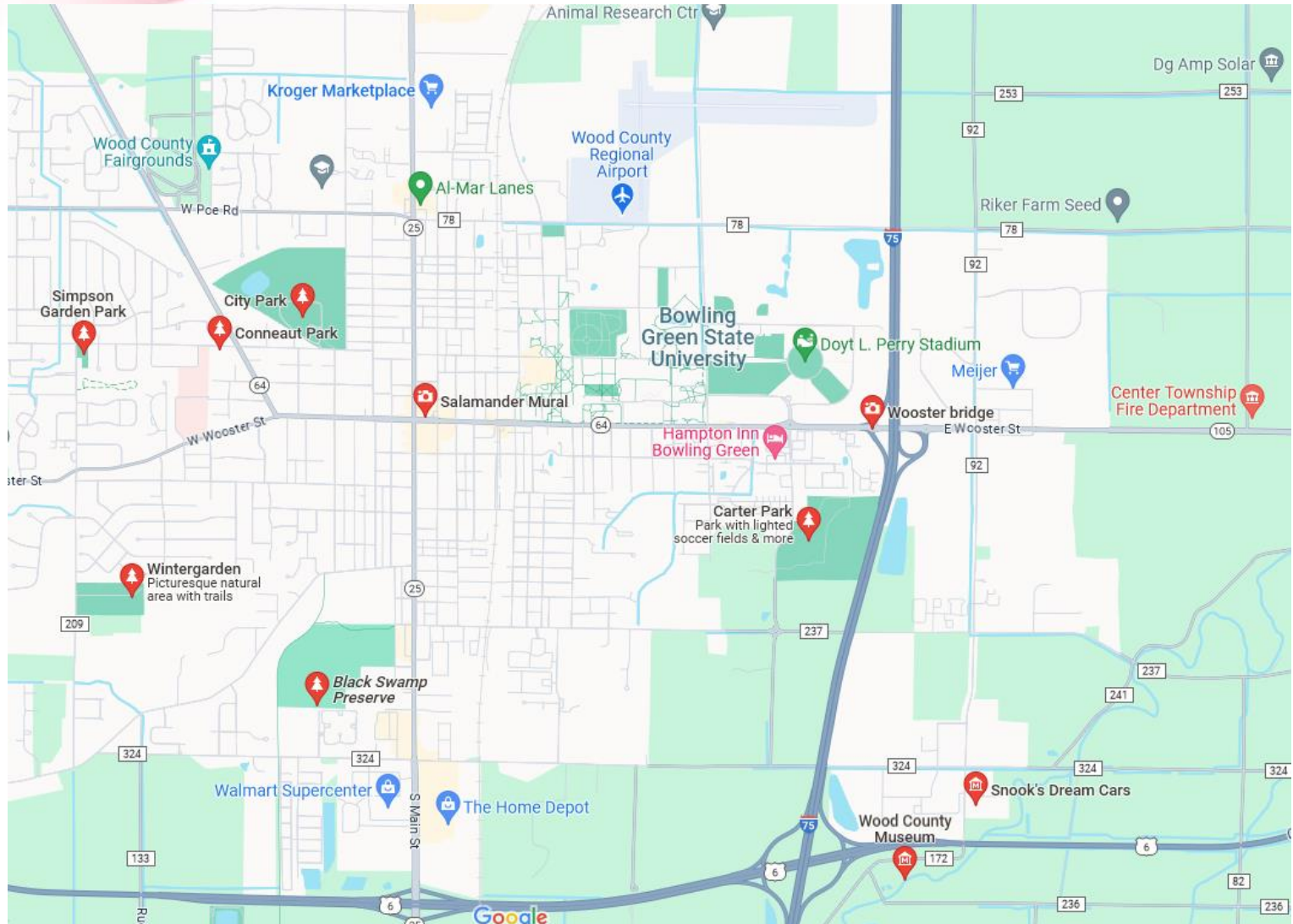
Pemberville Government Buildings



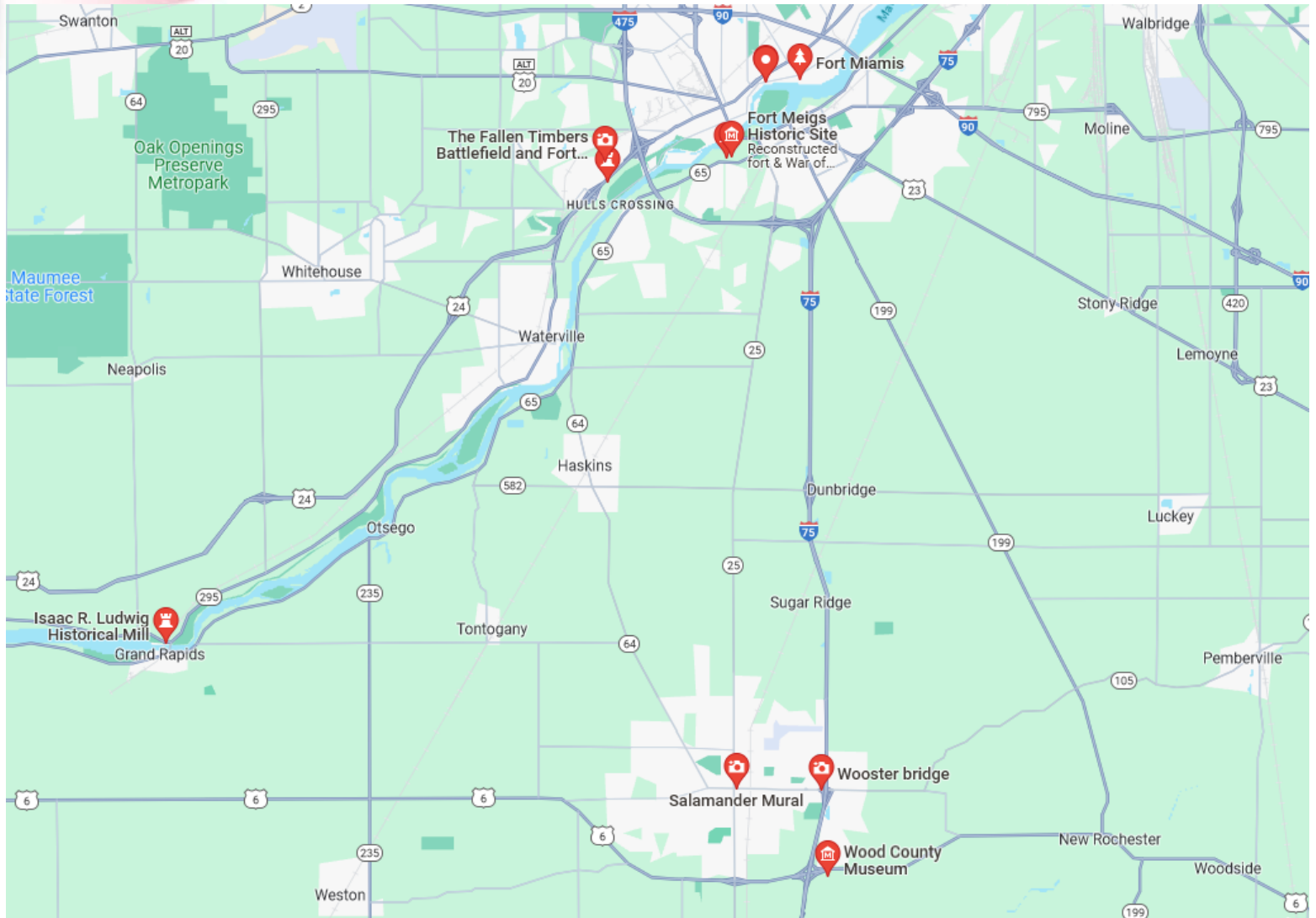
Pemberville Parks and Recreation



Bowling Green Parks and Recreation



Area Historical Points of Interest





FEDERAL



Travel safety. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ensures that flying is safe.



Coin and currency. The U.S. mint manufactures and distributes the coins that we use. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing prints our paper money.



Ensuring national security. The Department of Defense provides the military forces needed to prevent war and keep our country safe.



Protecting plants and animals. U.S. Fish and Wildlife focuses on protecting endangered species.



Health standards. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves all medicines and sets food safety standards.



Education and research. The National Institute of Health (NIH) supports research into the causes and cure of diseases.



Vote. The Constitution establishes how national elections are held. Local governments, with State oversight, arrange for polling places where people cast their vote.



Emergency services. A community's first responders—firefighters, police and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) are there in minutes.



Recreation. Provides libraries, sports fields, parks and other recreation facilities in your community.



Sanitation and waste removal. Garbage collection and inspections are overseen by your community's sanitation department.



Road repairs. Without local government to repair the roads and fix potholes, one may end up with a rough ride.



LOCAL

STATE



Driver services. Every state has a Department of Motor Vehicles. That is where drivers receive their licenses and vehicle documents.



Professional licensing. Lawyers and other professionals must pass a state license exam in the state they plan to work.



Ratification amendments. Any amendment to our Constitution must be approved or ratified by 38 states.



Hospital oversight. A state controls all the hospitals within its borders and exerts direct control over specific facilities.



Electing our President. Every state chooses electors for the Electoral College. Electors cast votes for whichever candidate gets the majority of the votes in their state.



Teachers and schools. Local communities hire teachers, build schools and provide transportation to and from school. What gets taught in the schools is the state's responsibility.

FEDERAL AND STATE



Forestry administration. National and state governments create and maintain about 300 million acres of parks and forests.



Correctional facilities. Prisons house people who have been convicted of a crime.

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL



Roadways. About 4 million miles of roads criss-cross the U.S.



Public safety. Municipal police, state troopers, the National Guard and the FBI work to fight crime.

STATE AND LOCAL



Requirement 2

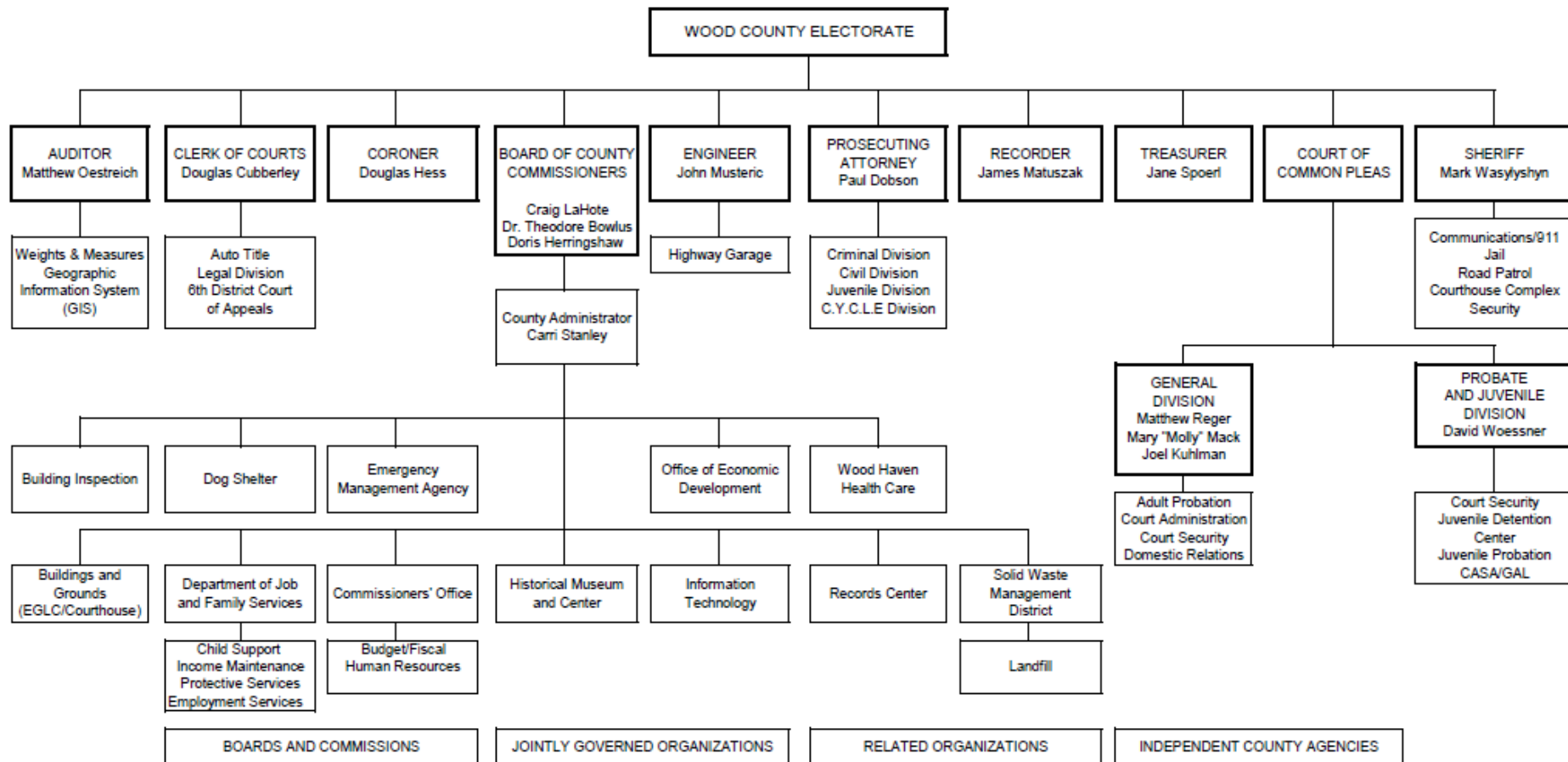
Do the following:

- b. Chart the organization of your local or state government. Show the top offices and tell whether they are elected or appointed.

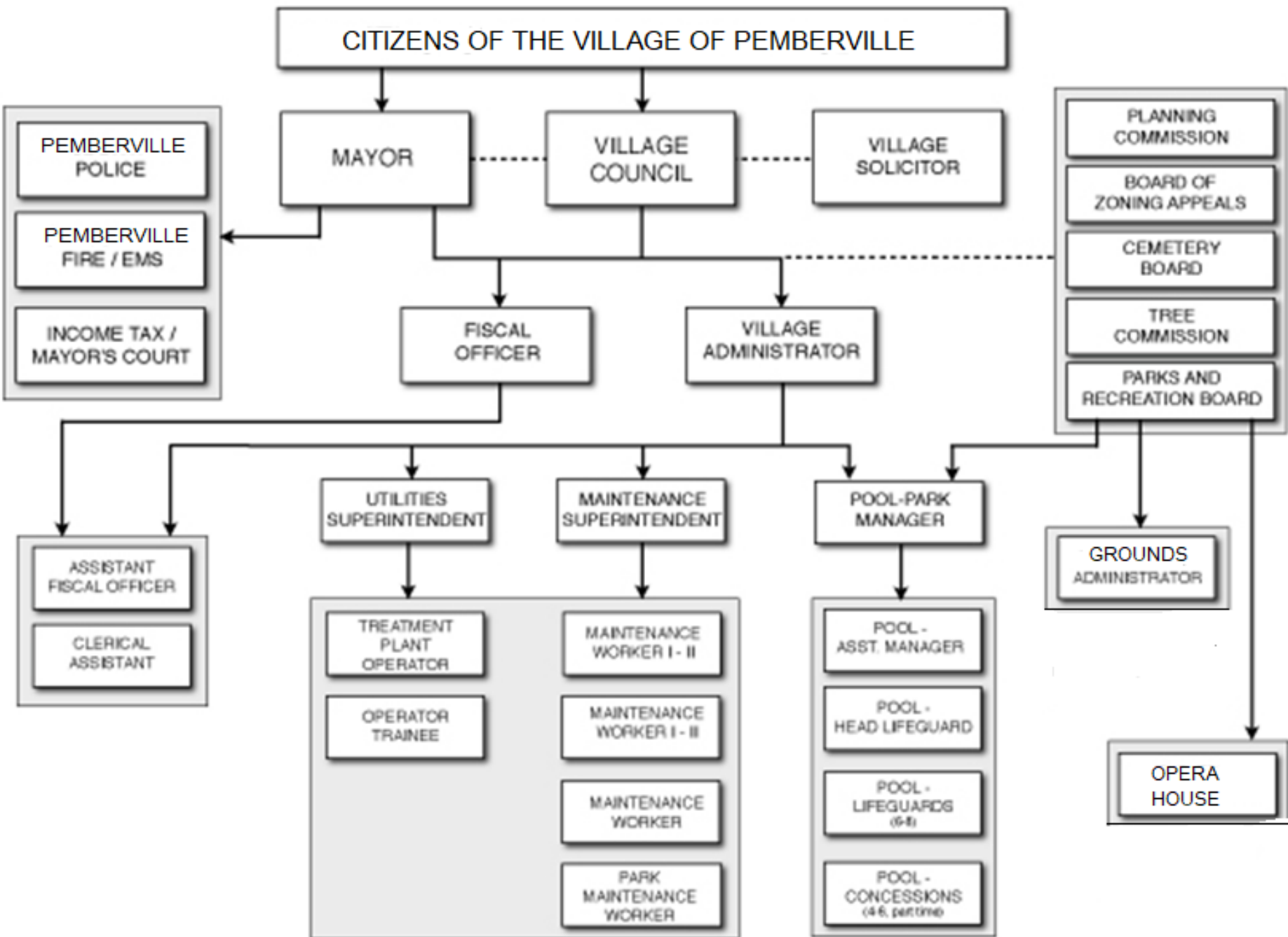
State of Ohio Organizational Chart



YOUR WOOD COUNTY GOVERNMENT



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS	JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS	RELATED ORGANIZATIONS	INDEPENDENT COUNTY AGENCIES
Alcohol Drug Addiction Mental Health Services	Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio (Serves 10 County Area)	District Public Library	Agricultural Society
Board of Elections	Northwest Community Corrections Center (Serves 5 County Area)	Park District	Economic Development Commission
Board of Developmental Disabilities (Wood Lane)	Wood County Port Authority	Regional Airport Authority	Educational Service Center
Law Library			Health Department
Planning Commission			Historical Society
Public Defender Commission			Northwestern Water and Sewer District
Senior Citizens Center/Committee on Aging			Ohio State University Extension
Veterans Service Commission Veterans Service Office			Soil and Water Conservation District



Requirement 3



Do the following:

- a. Attend a meeting of your city, town, or county council or school board; OR a municipal; county, or state court session.



Pemberville Town Council

- Council Meetings are held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:00PM
- Village of Pemberville Offices
115 Main Street
P.O. Box 109
Pemberville, OH 43450
419-287-3832





Requirement 3



Do the following:

- b. Choose one of the issues discussed at the meeting where a difference of opinions was expressed, and explain to your counselor why you agree with one opinion more than you do another one.

**DIFFERENCE OF OPINION
LEADS TO INQUIRY, AND
INQUIRY TO THE TRUTH**

THOMAS JEFFERSON



Community Issue

- Issue?
- Differing opinions?
- Your view?

Requirement 4



Choose an issue that is important to the citizens of your community; then do the following:

- a. Find out which branch of local government is responsible for this issue.
- b. With your counselor's and a parent's approval, interview one person from the branch of government you identified in requirement 4a. Ask what is being done about this issue and how young people can help.
- c. Share what you have learned with your counselor.





Community Issue

- Issue important to community?
- Who is responsible for this issue?
- What is being done about this issue?
- How can young people help?

Requirement 5



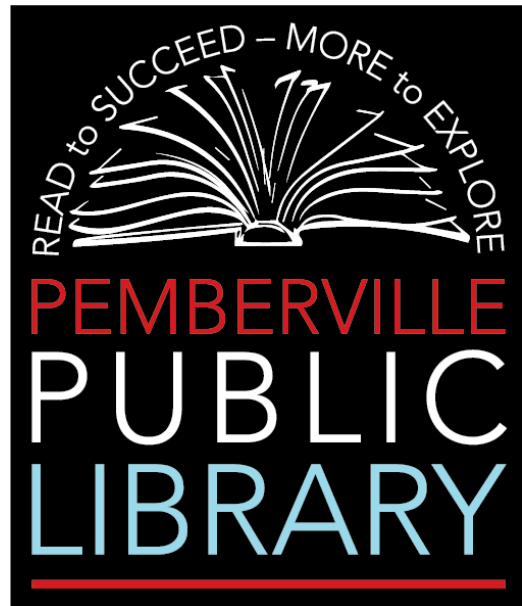
With the approval of your counselor and a parent, watch a movie that shows how the actions of one individual or group of individuals can have a positive effect on a community. Discuss with your counselor what you learned from the movie about what it means to be a valuable and concerned member of the community.



Requirement 6



List some of the services (such as the library, recreation center, public transportation, and public safety) your community provides that are funded by taxpayers. Tell your counselor why these services are important to your community.



- What are some taxpayer supported community services?



- Why are these services important to the community?



Requirement 7



Do the following:

- a. Identify three charitable organizations outside of Scouting that interest you and bring people in your community together to work for the good of your community.
- b. Pick ONE of the organizations you chose for requirement 7a. Using a variety of resources (including newspapers, fliers and other literature, the Internet, volunteers, and employees of the organization), find out more about this organization.
- c. With your counselor's and your parent's approval, contact the organization you chose for requirement 7b and find out what young people can do to help. While working on this merit badge, volunteer at least eight hours of your time for the organization. After your volunteer experience is over, discuss what you have learned with your counselor.



- Identify three charitable organizations:
- [Charities near Bowling Green, OH.](#)
- Pick one and find out more about this organization.



- Contact information and volunteer opportunities for your organization?



These hours can also be used for rank advancement!

- What did you learn by volunteering for this organization?





Benefits of Volunteering

1. Provides you with a sense of purpose
 - You may be able to find your purpose through volunteering and becoming part of something greater than yourself. For instance, if you're retired, unexpectedly unemployed or have lost a loved one, helping others can give your life new meaning and keep you mentally stimulated.
2. Provides a sense of community
 - Volunteering can help you feel connected to those you are helping in the community. This experience may make you want to get involved with other aspects of your community, such as local politics or advocating for programs you believe are important.



Benefits of Volunteering

3. Helps you meet new friends

- Volunteering is a great way to meet new friends as well as strengthen existing connections with friends, family or coworkers. As a volunteer, you'll typically interact with people from diverse backgrounds, which allows you to learn other perspectives.
- When you choose an organization or cause to volunteer for, consider the people you're volunteering alongside as well. Sharing a common interest will help you build closer relationships with those around you.

4. Increases your social skills

- Volunteering gives you a chance to talk to new people and sharpen your social skills. By spending a lot of time working with others and using social skills, like active listening and relationship management, you'll have the opportunity to develop your future personal and business relationships.



Benefits of Volunteering

5. Improves self-esteem

- Volunteering may boost your self-esteem and self-confidence. When you do something you feel is worthwhile and valuable for your community, it gives you a sense of accomplishment that may help you feel more fulfilled about your life and any future goals.

6. Teaches you valuable skills

- The training and hands-on experience you gain while volunteering can help you learn new skills as well as build upon ones you already have. For example, if you advocate and raise awareness or funding for a cause that interests you, you'll gain valuable communication, public speaking, marketing and other hard and soft skills. You can then put these skills on your resume to show employers how you build relationships outside of work in addition to any personal interests that can set you apart from other candidates.



Benefits of Volunteering

7. Provides job prospects

- Along with acquiring valuable skills and experience, you may also meet people while volunteering who can become your mentors or at least a part of your professional social network. If you choose to pursue a career in the field you're volunteering in, the connections you make also may help increase your job prospects.

8. Brings fun into your life

- Many people use volunteering as a way to pursue their hobbies while making a difference. For example, if you're interested in the outdoors, you might volunteer at your community garden or help out at a children's summer camp. Volunteering for organizations or causes also may provide you with a renewed sense of creativity and motivation that carries over into your personal and professional life.



Benefits of Volunteering

9. Can help you be happier

- It often feels good to contribute to projects and organizations that mean something to you. These good feelings can help lessen the effects of stress, anger or anxiety in your life. Volunteering may provide you with the tools you need to be a happy and well-rounded individual. Building bonds and connections with people you volunteer with also may counteract any social isolation. Many volunteer opportunities also may involve physical labor to keep you active and reduce stress.



Benefits of Volunteering

10. Gets you out of your comfort zone

- Through volunteer work, you may overcome the personal challenges of leaving your comfort zone and doing something new with people you may not know. You may be faced with various problems to solve as a volunteer that require you to exercise critical thinking skills that aid your own personal development.

Requirement 8



Develop a public presentation (such as a video, slide show, speech, digital presentation, or photo exhibit) about important and unique aspects of your community. Include information about the history, cultures, and ethnic groups of your community; its best features and popular places where people gather; and the challenges it faces. Stage your presentation in front of your merit badge counselor or a group, such as your patrol or a class at school.





- **Creative Presentation Ideas:**

- Develop a multimedia presentation slides (PowerPoint, or Google Slides) using video, audio, and visual elements. The entire presentation can be recorded and the video presentation can be shared with the appropriate audience.
- Create an interactive website or blog to present the research or project.
- Design an engaging infographic to illustrate key concepts.
- Host a podcast episode or series related to the topic.
- Collaborate with other scouts to create a short film or documentary.