

45 Ways to Recognise Volunteers

1. Never stop saying 'Thank You'
2. Establish a volunteer suggestion
3. Acknowledge volunteers by name at public events
4. Reimburse 'out of pocket' expenses
5. Send a birthday card
6. Hold an annual volunteer community barbecue
7. Invite volunteers to staff meetings
8. Recognise personal needs and problems
9. Accommodate personal needs
10. Establish a volunteer recognition board in a prominent position
11. Organise informal morning teas
12. Always greet by name
13. Provide continuous training
14. Ask for opinions and ideas
15. Hold regular idea generation sessions
16. Regularly organise photos in local newspapers of volunteers
17. Take time to talk about the job
18. Write references
19. Organise volunteers to attend conferences
20. Write personal 'thank you' notes
21. Invite participation in policy formation
22. Celebrate outstanding projects and achievements
23. Nominate individuals for volunteer awards
24. Carefully match volunteers with jobs
25. Praise volunteers to their friends
26. Plan staff and volunteer social events
27. Plan occasional extravaganzas
28. Send letter of appreciation to volunteers family and employer

29. Say 'we missed you' when absent
30. Award special awards for extraordinary achievements
31. Fully orientate new volunteers
32. Send Christmas cards
33. Organise community-wide, cooperative, inter-agency volunteer recognition events
34. Produce and distribute an organizational T-Shirt to all volunteers
35. Offer personal praise and recognition on the job, through the media and at public occasions
36. Give complimentary tickets to volunteers for special events at functions
37. Arrange discounts for volunteers at local businesses and events
38. Award life memberships, VIP recognition certificates
39. Hold social events in honor of volunteers
40. Create volunteer skill development opportunities
41. Farewell volunteers when they are retiring or moving away from the area
42. Arrange accreditation eg. Certificate 1 in Active Volunteering
43. Organise an annual 'Volunteer Appreciation Dinner'
44. Administer a volunteer satisfaction survey every 6 months
45. Offer volunteers the opportunity to change roles.