

NATIONAL 16-22 MAY 2022 VOLUNTEER Better Together WEEK

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Toolkit

Celebrating Western Australian volunteers

#NVW2022 #BetterTogether
www.volunteeringwa.org.au/nvw



volunteering^{WA}



Message from Tina

Each year, more than 520,000 Western Australians volunteer to make our state a great place to live. They generously give their time to make a difference in community organisations, groups, clubs and as individuals. National Volunteer Week gives us the opportunity to collectively recognise the importance of volunteers and the vital work they do selflessly in our communities.

This toolkit provides themes, ideas and resources to celebrate this special week, say 'thank you' to all of Western Australia's wonderful volunteers and acknowledge their valued contributions.

Join Volunteering WA as we celebrate this year's theme, where through volunteering, we are Better Together.

Happy volunteering!

Tina Williams, Volunteering WA Chief Executive Officer



National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers, this year taking place from Monday 16 May – Sunday 22 May.

Without the generosity of volunteers, our communities would grind to a halt. This is more evident now, than ever before, with volunteers providing vital support during the recent floods, bushfires and the COVID-19 crisis. It is important to say 'thank you' to our fellow volunteers for the enormous contribution they make each and every day.

This National Volunteer Week, we celebrate the significant contribution made by over 5 million Australians, including more than 520,000 Western Australian volunteers.

2022 Theme

The theme for National Volunteer Week 2022 is **BETTER TOGETHER**

Volunteering brings people together; it builds communities and creates a better society for everyone. It is a chance for all of us to celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and to say thank you.

Together, through volunteering, we are changing people's lives and communities for the better. We are, Better Together.

#NVW2022 #BetterTogether @VolunteeringWA

Volunteering snapshot

- Volunteering WA is the peak body for volunteering in Western Australia, working across community, government, corporate and education organisations to provide leadership, advancement and the celebration of volunteering.
- Volunteering WA proudly represents 750 organisations and 523,000 volunteers across the State.

Volunteering in Western Australia

- 1 in 4 Western Australians generously donate their time and effort through formal volunteering. (1)
- 523,600 (25.6%) Western Australians volunteer each year through community organisations, groups or clubs. (1)
- Consistent with national trends there has been a loss of over 150,000 volunteers in WA – a 22% reduction over the past six years. (2)

The value of volunteering

- Volunteers are reportedly happier and healthier people, with volunteering increasing feelings of self-worth, connectedness and providing overall better mental health.
- 95% of employers believe volunteering is a credible way to gain real world experience; and 92% believe volunteer experience gives an advantage at job interviews. (4)
- 77% of volunteers did so to help others and their community; 66% for personal satisfaction; 37% due to personal/family involvement; and 34% did so for the social connection. (5)

Volunteering in Australia

- 5 million Australians volunteer their time (489 million hours) each year to support community organisations, groups and clubs. (1)
- The 70+ years age bracket has the highest formal volunteering participation rates at 29.3%; followed by 40–54 year olds (28.9%); 55–69 years (23.3%); 15–24 years (20.7%); and 25–39 years (17.5%). (3)
- Sport and recreation groups are the biggest benefactors, with over 30% of Australians volunteering their time to support. (5)

National Volunteer Week Resources

A suite of resources is available at volunteeringwa.org.au/nvw for everyone to use leading up to and during National Volunteer Week. We encourage all volunteer involving organisations to proudly promote the upcoming celebrations and use the resources widely to help increase awareness of the vital role volunteers play in our lives.

Be sure to check volunteeringwa.org.au/nvw and our social media channels regularly as more resources are uploaded. Resources include National Volunteer Week 2022 logos, certificates, thank you posters, social media tiles, and email banners.

Subscribe to our newsletter to receive the latest updates.

*1 ABS 4159.0 General Social Survey, ABS, 2020 tables 6.3, 11.1

*2 ABS 4159.0 General Social Survey, ABS, 2020 tables 6.3, 11.1 and 2019 tables 9.1, 15.1, 15.3 and 2014

*3 General Social Survey, ABS, 2020 Table 2.3

*4 SEEK, Get ahead in volunteering in 2018, <https://www.seek.com.au/career-advice/get-ahead-in-volunteering-in-2018>

*5 General Social Survey, ABS, 2020, Table 10.1, 10.3

Ways to get involved

Wave Your Appreciation for Volunteers

We invite you to put your hand up and thank all the volunteers around Australia by waving a special smile of appreciation to recognise the great work volunteers do each and every day.

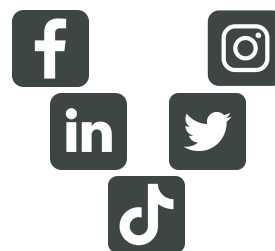
WAVE FOR VOLUNTEERS: Upload your wave photo to social media, tag **@VolunteeringWA** and share using the hashtags **#NVW2022** and **#BetterTogether**.



Celebrate on social

Join in the conversation on social media using the hashtags **#NVW2022** and **#BetterTogether**

Share photos of your National Volunteer Week activities using the hashtags above and tag **@VolunteeringWA**



Sample Social Media Posts

- This National Volunteer Week, we acknowledge that together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better in Western Australia. **#NVW2022 #BetterTogether @VolunteeringWA**
- **[Our organisation]** would like to celebrate and thank our volunteers for the vital work they have done in the community this National Volunteer Week. Volunteers build communities and create a better society for everyone in Western Australia. **#NVW2022 #BetterTogether @VolunteeringWA**
- It's **#NVW2022** and **[our organisation]** is celebrating our wonderful volunteers. We are thankful for all the vital work our volunteers have given to the community. What you do is SO important. **#BetterTogether @VolunteeringWA**
- Behind every wave of appreciation is a spirit of community and every smile from our volunteers is a big thank you from **[our organisation]** **#NVW2022 #BetterTogether @VolunteeringWA**

Send an online Certificate of Appreciation to your volunteers

Looking for a virtual way to thank your volunteers this National Volunteer Week?

Through the Volunteering Australia website, you can send a free e-card Certificate of Appreciation directly to your volunteer's email or download Volunteering WA's editable word template on **volunteeringwa.org.au/nvw**

Say thank you to your volunteers with a gift

Giving a gift is a great way to say thank you and the **Volunteering Australia shop** remains open all year round.

As well as the hugely popular lapel pins they have pens, lanyards, post-it notes and eco cups. They will again have a limited number of 'V' volunteer anniversary pins for volunteers who have volunteered for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years as well as the sought-after Red V lapel pins.

Say thank you to your volunteers with high quality, volunteer-specific gifts, while supporting Volunteering Australia in advocating for the volunteering sector in Australia.



RED for National Volunteer Week

Iconic buildings and landmarks across the State will be lit up during the week in magnificent red – the colour of volunteering – in support of volunteers, including the Bell Tower; Optus Stadium; Matagarup, Mount Street, and Joondalup Drive Bridges; Sky Ribbon; Elizabeth Quay Bridge and Spanda.

Encourage your team to wear red; hang NVW posters around the office or get some red decorations.

WOW Day – Wear Orange Wednesday

WA Department of Fire & Emergency Services encourage everyone in Western Australia to wear orange on *Wear Orange Wednesday (WOW Day)* on 18 May 2022 to thank and celebrate the hard work and dedication of our SES volunteers. Over 2,000 SES volunteers across WA play a vital role in keeping the community safe during natural disaster and emergencies.

These highly skilled volunteers conduct emergency repairs to buildings damaged by cyclones, storms and floods, ferry cargo and passengers across floodwaters, conduct land searches, aerial and cave rescues, attend road crashes and much more.

Wear orange on WOW Day and show your support by uploading your images to social media using the hashtag **#thankyouSES #NVW2022**



volunteering^{WA}

Empowering people and communities to enrich Western Australia

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