

# New York Mills

## Community Service Sheet

\* Twenty Hours of service is the requirement for Participation in Government Class Senior Year to graduate. Students may begin their hours freshmen year and may complete up to fifteen hours for credit prior to senior year. Additional hours of service may be logged for a special acknowledgment at graduation and in the high school transcript.

Please have the following information filled out for community service hours to be computed.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Activity that fits community service criteria: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Hour(s) completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator/Supervisor/Adult in Charge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number for Coordinator/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email of Coordinator/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator/Supervisor/Adult in Charge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Handed In: \_\_\_\_\_

Initials of Educator Documenting the Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for helping build well-rounded citizens of our community!**

*Enacted: September 2015*

## **Purpose of Community Service Learning (CSL)**

***To extend learning beyond the classroom and into the community, to promote civic responsibility through active participation in service experiences, to foster a sense of caring for others, and to develop a habit of volunteer service to those in need.***

### **What is Community Service Learning?**

Community Service Learning (CSL) is an educational process, which enhances the quality of life within the school and the community. Community Service Learning combines instruction, 21st century skills, and voluntary participation in supporting activities or obtaining contributions of goods.

### **What are the benefits of Community Service Learning?**

- Students completing 80 hours or more of community service during grades 9-12 will receive acknowledgment at graduation and a notation on their transcripts.
- Students receive an invaluable learning experience outside of the normal classroom setting.
- Service learning places curricular concepts in the context of real-world situations.
- Students analyze, evaluate, and synthesize these concepts using problem-solving skills, while at the same time helping their community.
- Students have the opportunity to explore a variety of career opportunities before exiting high school.
- Students generate positive school-community relations and relations within the school.
- Students experience a good feeling of people helping people.

### **What types of activities constitute Community Service Learning?**

- Activities which benefit the school or community, provided that the community organizations benefiting from the services are non-profit, with the exception of hospitals, nursing homes, or educational activities.
- Activities which are not self-serving for a student or the student's family member.
- Activities which **are not tied to a grade** (i.e. - Musical performances with school groups to such places as nursing homes, will not count if the activity is tied to a grade in the music class.)
- Activities which render service to individuals who cannot otherwise provide for themselves.

*Note:* If training is required by the organization, i.e. candy striping at a hospital, the hours required for training may be included as credit for community service. Most organizations will not commit to train students unless the volunteer agrees to a substantial number of volunteer service hours.

The key to determining whether or not the service meets the criteria is asking the question, ***Who benefits from the service?***

**The answer should be:** Those organizations which are identified as an educational institution, those with non-profit status, or an individual in need – such as the poor, the sick, or those with special needs.

***What types of activities MEET the criteria of Community Service Learning?***

- Participating in service projects as a member of a service club or community organization.
- Students who leave school to participate in an elementary or middle school, as a part of an **instructional program** approved by the principals in each school may receive service credit for the *instructional time* rendered.
- Reading to the blind.
- Volunteering one's services at a local hospital, nursing home, etc.
- Volunteering one's services to individuals, i.e. senior citizens or the disabled.
- Hosting outside groups for school festivals.
- PTSA and Booster projects
- Volunteering as a coach or instructor for nonprofit organizations such as Little League or the Leatherstocking ballet.
- Volunteering for the Board of Elections or political campaigns.
- ALL tutoring (not paid); including tutoring done before or after school, during lunch or study hall.
- Outreach programs of religious organizations and other non-profit organizations, which provide non-proselytizing service to the poor, sick, needy, etc.
- Participating in events, i.e., marathons, walks, races, which benefit charitable organizations. One hour of service credit will be awarded for each hour of service provided to the charity.

**What types of activities DO NOT meet the criteria of Community Service Learning?**

- Any activity for an organization which is not identified as non-profit, unless the activity is education related.
- Cleaning/Helping a family member.
- Any court-ordered service to the community.
- Community Service hours that are required by clubs; e.g., National Honor Society.
- Hours served beyond the minimum requirement can be used for the club and toward the acknowledgment at graduation

**How will Community Service Learning be incorporated into the curriculum?**

Teaching students about service to others, and the invaluable learning experience offered through Community Service Learning, is a requirement for high school graduation. A minimum of twenty hours of community service is necessary for Participation in Government class. Up to fifteen hours of community service may be logged prior to senior year, requiring that only five hours be done senior year. If additional hours are recorded prior they will be calculated towards a special seal and recognition on their high school transcripts.

**What procedures must be followed in order to receive CSL credit?**

Have the appropriate supervisor/coordinator of the activity sign and date the New York Mills Community Service Sheet and hand each sheet into one of the following: Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Viel, Principal Spost, or that student's class advisor.