

WELLS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Wells High School believes that a well-rounded education is more than the achievement of Maine's *Learning Results*, but includes opportunities to engage one's time, talents, gifts and passions in service to our school, and community at large. Volunteering provides opportunities to build new skills, strengthen one's resume, meet new people, enrich one's life, promote goodwill, help others and achieve personal growth and satisfaction. Wells High School staff are encouraged to share their community service contributions with students.

Every Wells High School student is expected to have significant exposure to community service opportunities as a requirement for graduation. Community service is defined as service without pay to a non-profit agency / organization, an individual or group in need.

- All students must complete forty (40) hours of community service as a graduation requirement. Students may complete additional hours.
- Students must complete ten (10) hours of service per year.
- This requirement will be phased in so that the Class of 2009 need only complete 10 hours of service, 20 hours for the Class of 2010 and 30 hours for the class of 2011.
- Students transferring to Wells High School will begin his/her accumulation of hours at that point.
- Students are strongly encouraged to have their activities pre-approved by their guidance counselor / advisor; however, no credit will be awarded unless forms are signed by the student, parent / guardian and project supervisor.
- Community service forms are available in the guidance and main office and may be downloaded from the school's website. Completed forms should be submitted to the guidance office.
- Underclassmen shall submit their community service forms to their guidance counselor by June 10; seniors must submit their forms by May 15th.
- Some examples of community service are tutoring students, mentoring , assisting the elderly (shoveling, raking, piling wood, visiting nurse homes) cleaning our beaches, school grounds, athletic fields as well as helping with special community events, hospitals, food banks, soup kitchens and day care centers.
- A grade of Pass/Fail (P/F) will be recorded on each student's report card as students complete the required ten (10) hours of service annually, and forty (40) hours in total. Failure to complete the required hours will be carried over to the next year.
- The Guidance Department and Cooperative Education teacher will maintain a list of community service opportunities to complete.