



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Community Service

Community Service Program Newsletter Article – September

Theme: “Service with Purpose – United in Remembrance and Action”

As we step into September, we also step into a new year of impact through the American Legion Auxiliary’s Community Service Program. Across Minnesota, our communities rely on the compassion, creativity, and dedication of Auxiliary members—and there’s no better time than now to show what “Service Not Self” truly means.

September 11 – National Day of Service and Remembrance

This month, we honor the memory of those we lost on 9/11 and the spirit of unity that followed. All Units are encouraged to participate in the 9/11 National Day of Service by organizing or joining a local service activity that benefits your community or honors our nation’s heroes.

Suggested Activities:

- Deliver thank-you baskets to local fire, police, or EMS departments
- Host a blood drive or community cleanup event
- Place flags in memory of the fallen and in support of current first responders
- Include Junior members in simple acts of kindness—chalk messages, cards for military or healthcare workers
- Promote your activities on social media using #911Day and #ALAMNService

Let us not only remember but continue to build a legacy of service in their honor.

POW/MIA Recognition Day – Friday, September 20

They are not forgotten. That’s the promise we make every year as we observe POW/MIA Recognition Day. Community service projects honoring POWs and MIAs are meaningful opportunities to engage with schools, civic groups, and your entire community.

Ideas include:

- Set up a Missing Man Table at a local event, library, or community center
- Host a candlelight vigil or educational display
- Distribute literature to raise awareness of Minnesota’s POW/MIAs
- Collaborate with the American Legion Post or SAL on a public remembrance

These events educate, inspire, and reinforce the ALA’s commitment to honoring all who served.

Mobilizing for Fall and Beyond

September is also the perfect time to:

- Start a Fall community outreach project (yard cleanup for veterans, food shelf drive, coat collection)
- Launch a “Service Team” within your Unit to help plan and execute quarterly projects
- Collaborate with local schools or Scout troops on flag education or joint service events
- Recognize and support Blue Star Families in your area with cards, banners, or care packages

And don’t forget: American Legion Family Day is coming in April! Begin brainstorming now for how your Unit can showcase community service in that celebration.

Reporting and Sharing

Please document your projects, collect volunteer hours, and take photos! We encourage all Units to:

- Submit community service stories to the Department for the newsletter or website
- Keep track of hours and impact—every small act adds up!
- Share on your Unit’s social media to raise awareness and encourage new membership

Together, we are the hands and hearts of the American Legion Auxiliary. Let’s make this a year filled with meaningful service, stronger communities, and unwavering support for those who served.

In service and unity,

Tamara Martin

Department of Minnesota – Community Service Chairman

American Legion Auxiliary