

## **Volunteer Appreciation Ideas Simple and Low-cost**

- Print out "Thanks for being a lifesaver!" on mailing labels in your office and adhere them to rolls of Lifesavers to pass out to your volunteers. [ENERGIZE, Inc.](#)
- Highlight volunteers in your program's newsletter, include a picture of the volunteer. Great example: Nebraska's quarterly publication [SHIP News](#)
- Email your volunteers a Thank You eCard. Some eCards support causes, such as [Make-A-Wish](#), [Conservation](#), and [Civic Engagement](#) just by using their service.
- Host a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch or picnic, where staff brings pot luck items for lunch and the site is decorated with low-cost items from the Dollar Store. Welcome the volunteers to invite their family and friends. Take a minute to thank each volunteer.
- Leave [Pocket Praise cards](#) for your volunteers. These cute cards are available at a low cost from *Baudville, Putting Applause on Paper* (SHIP at the Arlington AAA).
- Create a personalized Award Certificate using [Free Microsoft Certificates](#) template.
- Buy packets of flower seeds and include a "Thank You for Helping Us Grow!" note. [ENERGIZE, Inc.](#)
- Order "You make the difference" [mouse pads](#), so every time volunteers use the computer they know their time and energy is appreciated. Available for less than \$1/mouse pad at [www.discountmugs.com](#).
- Create "Thanks for all that you do" laminated bookmarks with images of [children's art](#), notes of thanks from beneficiaries or staff, or pressed flowers. [ENERGIZE, Inc.](#)
- Become a "Certifying Organization" and nominate your qualifying volunteers for the [President's Volunteer Service Awards](#).
- Give volunteers a little thank you package of goodies, including candies (possibly sugar-free), cookies, fudge, [homemade bath salts](#), a candle, and tea bags.
- Collect favorite recipes from each volunteer and put them together into a booklet, and email each volunteer a Customized Cookbook. [ENERGIZE, Inc.](#)
- Ask local media to run a week-long series that recognizes a different volunteer for each day of National Volunteer Week. [Points of Light Foundation](#)