Along the coast, in the mountains, and near the plains, communities depend on infrastructure and good design to support their day-to-day needs. Our employees are passionate about being good stewards to these communities, and it’s reflected in their work as well as our company’s guiding principle: “Make building relationships with clients, the community, and others at Dewberry a priority.” Since 2013, we have tracked company volunteer hours through the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. In 2017, we again achieved the gold level with 2269 community service hours tracked.

Our employees engage in community service activities that most closely align with their work—and this is encouraged by leadership. Employees also serve on community boards, chambers of commerce, community re-investment programs, not-for-profits, and organizations like Boy and Girl Scouts of America and Habitat for Humanity. They give their time to enrich their work, their families and friends, and the communities around them.

2017 Community Engagement REPORT

Dewberry Office Locations

Originally published in the Summer 2018 Dimensions
Supporting STEM Education

Orlando Teach-Ins
Members of the Orlando, Florida, office spoke at three local elementary schools about transportation engineering services. After each presentation, the class worked on an activity where they helped our engineers decide where a new road should be built.

Fit Brain Summer Camp
For Engineering Day, the Charlotte, North Carolina, office hosted the kids of the Fit Brain summer camp to discuss what engineers do. The kids played two games: build a neighborhood game where they were given pieces of property to develop subdivisions, and the spaghetti marshmallow challenge where the kids were tasked with building the tallest freestanding structure in 18 minutes or less.

ADDITIONAL STEM-RELATED VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Bloomfield, New Jersey, team members volunteered to teach a STEM class at a local elementary school
- Our Fairfax, Virginia, office partnered with a second-grade class from Alexandria for eight weeks to talk about everything from building structures and sustainability, to interior design and community planning
- Our architecture community engagement committee in Fairfax hosted J. Michael Lunsford Middle School for their annual “Day at Work”
- Twelve students from local high schools attended the New York City office’s Exploring Program where they learned about water resources and environmental engineering
- Mount Laurel, New Jersey, staff participated in Teen Science Café
- Our Frederick, Maryland, office participated in Boonsboro Middle School’s second annual career day
- A member of our New Haven, Connecticut, office presented on coastal storms and risk to a local third-grade class
- The Bloomfield office attended the Metropolitan Steel Bridge Competition

Engineering Day at the Crossroads Center
Our Baltimore, Maryland, office participated in the Crossroads Center’s Engineering Day. During this day-long event, we met with ninth-grade math classes to discuss careers in civil engineering and organized team building activities.

Future Engineers in the Making
Two members of the Denver, Colorado, office helped host 90 seventh-grade girls at the Society of Women Engineers Girls Exploring Science Technology Engineering and Math (GESTEM) day.
Participating in Park and Water Cleanups

Annual Dundee Preserve Cleanup
The Bloomfield and Parsippany, New Jersey, offices teamed up on the fourth annual cleanup of the Dundee Preserve where they collected trash along the Passaic River.

Milby Park Restoration
In Houston, Texas, a team of six participated in a riparian-zone restoration project in Milby Park, planting a total of 26 trees and mulching even more.

Dewberry achieved the GOLD LEVEL IN VOLUNTEERING through the President’s Volunteer Service Award

2,269 HOURS VOLUNTEERING in our communities

Annual Cyrus Avery Route 66 Cleanup
The Tulsa, Oklahoma, office celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up Dewberry’s designated area near the Cyrus Avery Plaza.
Heart of Illinois United Way Day of Caring Food Drive

Peoria staff volunteered at the Midwest Food Bank Drive. We contributed our largest donation ever with a record 703 items, which went to those in need, as well as for Texas hurricane relief.

Fairfax Adopt-a-Family

Members of the Fairfax office adopted two families from the Volunteer and Partner Services division of the Fairfax County Department of Family Services. Thanks to generous donations, we were able to buy more than 70 gifts.

Sandwiches for the Homeless

Members of the Mount Laurel office spent their lunch hour making more than 225 lunches for the homeless in Camden County, New Jersey.

Serving Communities in Need

ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED ACTIVITIES

- New Orleans staff took part in the 10,000 trees for Louisiana campaign
- The Raleigh, North Carolina, office participated in the Professional Engineers of North Carolina Stream Clean
- The Peoria, Illinois, office supported the Adopt-A-Box Planters program
- The Daphne, Alabama, employees sponsored the annual Coastal Kids Quiz
- The Long Beach and Pasadena, California, offices helped with a Los Angeles River clean-up
- The Peoria office adopted multiple planting boxes through Keep Peoria Beautiful
- Fairfax staff partnered with the Young Professionals Committee of the Virginia Water Environment Association (VWEA), the VA American Water Works Association (AWWA), George Mason University’s new VWEA student chapter, and Friends of the Accotink Creek to clean up a local stream
Canstruction

Each year, multiple Dewberry offices participate in Canstruction—a charity competition where architects, engineers, contractors, and students design and build huge structures made entirely of canned and non-perishable goods. At the end of each competition, the food is donated to local food banks.

Our Tulsa office raised money for more than 2,200 cans and built a giant box of crayons titled, “Coloring Outside the Box.” The Fairfax office along with our partners at Hitt Construction built a Smokey the Bear replica that included more than 4,000 cans of food. The Richmond office created a spaceship that represented the local competition theme “Exploring the Galaxies.” In addition to donating 800 canned goods, the Richmond office raised $1,000 for FeedMore, which provides meals to the community.

We donated 7,000 CANS of FOOD to the Capital Area Food Bank, Feed More’s Central Virginia Food Bank, and the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma.
ADDITIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- The Rockville, Maryland, and Richmond offices participated in local toy drives.
- The Raleigh office supported Alliance Medical Ministry, Hearts for Children, Durham Public Schools, Homeless in Raleigh, and Hillside Center and Rehab.
- Boston, Massachusetts, staff supported the local chapter of Cradles to Crayons and held their third annual winter apparel drive in support of The Friends of Boston’s Homeless.
- The Fairfax office held their annual Winter Clothing Drive.
- Gainesville, Virginia, staff participated in the Annual Strike for Stronger Families Bowl-a-Thon.
- The Raleigh office held a food drive for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.
- Members of the Fairfax office partnered with Fairfax County’s Facets Program’s Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Charitable Contributions

Hurricane Relief

During the 2017 hurricane season, we matched employee donations and donated $31,730 to the American Red Cross for relief efforts.

Recognition

For many years, our Tulsa office has supported Habitat for Humanity through service, design, and volunteer construction labor. In December, we received a merit award in the AIA Eastern Oklahoma Residential Design awards program for a prototype home design. The home has now been constructed several times over the past year with many variations highlighting the flexibility of the prototype plan. The awards jury was impressed with the project outcome related to the limited budget and volunteer capabilities.