



Service Project Descriptions — Fall 2024

Tau Beta Pi, MI-G

The following projects and descriptions are examples of some of the service projects that our chapter has carried out in the past. The complete list of service projects that will be done this semester is uncertain due to the constantly evolving opportunities our members discover. However, this list should give you a good sense of the different types of service projects that we undertake. If you see an event that you would like to participate in that has not been scheduled, you may also take the lead on it yourself. This semester is a great time to have creative ideas and take advantage of TBP resources for service events. Also, if we have a large amount of electees and general motivation to do larger scale community service, we have a community outreach plan set up that consists of a lot of groundwork/direct interaction with the Michigan/Ann Arbor community. If you are interested in any of this please contact Karis Hu (tbp.service@umich.edu); it is never too early to start getting involved in leadership. Note that the list below is only a taste of the service projects we have carried out.

Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Stewardship Workdays: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation (NAP) is a section of the Ann Arbor Government that specializes in the preservation of public parks and nature reserves. NAP hosts weekend Stewardship Workdays that welcome groups of volunteers to help remove invasive plant species to preserve biodiversity. These events will become more frequent as the weather improves.

Campus Outreach Events: TBP organizes various tutoring opportunities for students within and outside the University of Michigan, hosts Breakfast Parties and Hot Chocolate Outreach Programs. Please check the website for more information.

Cub Scouts Day: Cub Scouts Engineering Day is a TBP-organized event for local Cub Scouts troops to receive their engineering badges. Activities include bridge building, egg drop, circuits, and floor plan. Volunteers are needed to help run these stations and to lead groups of Cub Scouts through the stations

Knitwits: Knitwits helps the less fortunate during the cold winters by creating warm clothes from donated material. We tie together scraps of fleece to make blankets for the homeless here in Ann Arbor. No experience is necessary; instructions and materials all provided!

Merit Badge Day: At Merit Badge Day, Scouts will explore the world of engineering and earn their Digital Technology, Programming, Electronics and Engineering Merit Badges. Scouts will learn about programming and engineering in a fun environment through multiple activities, including developing programs on an Arduino and designing simple websites, as well as learning about important topics in engineering. Scouts will learn from engineering students across several disciplines, and learn more about what it means to be an engineer.

MindSET: MindSET is a STEM education initiative started by TBP, aimed at engaging K-12 students in science and mathematics through hands-on, design-based learning activities, and mentoring from current engineering students. The program is designed around learn-design-build-test modules covering topics in physics, chemistry, and mathematics, along with their engineering applications such as bridges, circuits, and water rockets. The design-build activities involve groups of 4–5 school students working together. MindSET modules are organized on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Each module is unique in a given semester, but may repeat across semesters.

For more information, see <https://tbp.engin.umich.edu/outreach/mindset/>

University of Michigan Science Olympiad: University of Michigan Science Olympiad (UMSO) provides an excellent opportunity for both middle school and high school science to help grade and supervise events.

Zooniverse: Zooniverse is a completely virtual service opportunity that sees volunteers classifying elements for large-scale data sets. Topics include cosmology, biology, and history to name a few.