

Festival community works program helps further education and environment

Each year the National Cherry Festival provides resources to the community to assist the needy, provide educational scholarships, and create awareness of our environment. Various scholarship programs support education

enrichment. The National Cherry Queen and her runner-up are each awarded college scholarships made possible in part by Huntington Bank. This year's National Cherry Queen will receive scholarships totaling \$8,000. Over \$15,000 will be awarded in scholarship monies this

year to the National Cherry Queen and her court. Each year a scholarship contribution is also made to the Culinary Arts students of Northwestern Michigan College. Scholarship dollars are made possible through a culinary presentation event, Taste of Cherries, sponsored

by Holiday Inn West Bay in cooperation with Sunny 101.9 WLDR. A cooperative program, Taste of Cherries, makes it possible for students to learn with hands-on experience in creating recipes and presenting cuisine – all of which feature cherries.

Our environment is in good hands during the Festival by virtue of a waste handling and recycling effort sponsored by Shoreline Waste. In addition to recycling over half of the Festival's total waste, Festival volunteers will be composting organic waste and making a Festival Flower Bed in the Open Space Park.

Off-site event venues like the Festival of Races sponsored TRAVERSE, Northern Michigan's Magazine and Traverse City Light and Power will also recycle cups and contribute to the composting effort.

The Festival Green Team will offer recycling stations in easy-to-find locations throughout the Festival.

In addition, over 40 Community groups and service clubs will partner with the National Cherry Festival's ALLTEL Community Share Program to provide manpower in addition to the Art Van Furniture Festival Ambassadors, to help run Festival events.

In return, the Festival will contribute over \$35,000 to these civic organizations.

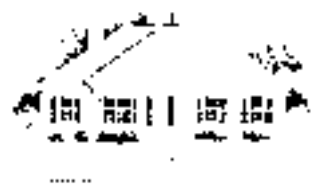
For more information on Festival Community Works Programs visit our web site at www.cherryfestival.org or call 231-947-4230.



Record-Eagle file photo

Junior Arts and Crafts is Sunday, July 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at F & M Park at Railroad and Washington Streets.

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