

Rocky's Ace Hardware lends leadership to 26th Annual #GreenNFit Neighborhood Rebuild Springfield

Store volunteers to manage equipment and more at Revitalize CDC event, April 28

As a family-owned business with neighborhood-based stores in six states, <u>Rocky's Ace</u> <u>Hardware</u> knows neighborhoods—and is committed to helping them thrive.

For the eighth year running, employees from local Rocky's stores will be among roughly 1,000 volunteer participants in #GreenNFit Neighborhood Rebuild Springfield, an annual initiative through the Revitalize Community Development Corporation (Revitalize CDC). Taking place on Saturday, April 28, the city's 26th #GreenNFit Neighborhood Rebuild project will be repair and renovation of up to 14 homes on Manhattan Street, aiming to make them energy-efficient, healthy and safe.

"It's really an ideal partnership, as Rocky's and Revitalize CDC share the same values when it comes to home upkeep and care," said Rocky's District Manager, Robert Benson, who participated in Revitalize Holyoke for the past two years and is now a Revitalize CDC committee member. "Rocky's and many others have been involved year after year, helping the elderly, people with disabilities and veterans restore their homes. There's a lot of gratification in contributing your knowledge and skills toward something like this."

Dewayne Kelly, Store Manager at Rocky's on Island Pond Road, also serves on the Revitalize CDC committee and has been an integral part of the partnership for several years, Benson said.

From 8 a.m.–2 p.m., volunteers from local businesses, students and contractors will provide electrical, plumbing, carpentry, painting and related services for modifying up to 14 Manhattan Street homes. For their part, Benson said, Rocky's volunteers will mainly head up equipment management, ensuring house captains have the necessary tools at all times. They'll also make sure that all equipment provided by Revitalize CDC is detailed to each house and returned to the organization's trailer once the work is completed. In the case of an equipment shortage, Rocky's will acquire tools from its own store for use on the project.

Nothing says renovation like a fresh coat of paint, and through its partnership with Valspar, Rocky's is ready—Rocky's associates mixed 50 gallons of paint that Valspar donated for the project. In addition, Rocky's is donating a pallet of water for all #GreenNFit workers.

Revitalize CDC is still in need of landscapers and dumpster truck owners to help remove leaf bags and rubbish at the end of the day, as well as additional business partners to donate water. For information on how to volunteer or donate, visit RevitalizeCDC.org.

About Rocky's Ace Hardware

Rocky's Ace Hardware, your neighborhood store for paint, hardware, lawn & garden and pet supplies has been in continuous operation, under the same family ownership, since opening its first location in Springfield, MA in 1926. From one modest store to now over 32 convenient locations throughout

Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Rocky's has become one of the country's largest Ace Hardware dealers, noted for its exceptional customer service and vast product selection. For more information, visit <u>rockys.com</u>.

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