

April 2026



Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE)

500 East Veterans Street (135), Tomah, WI 54660

608-372-1727

VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 0600-1430, Closed Holidays

Happy Volunteer Appreciation ~~Week~~-Month!

We are looking forward to celebrate with you in April for Volunteer Appreciation Week. Please remember to RSVP for the Volunteer Recognition Banquet by Friday, April 3, 2026.

- ◆ Monday, April 20, 2026 **Brunch and Bingo** 9:30am; Building 455, Veterans Hall
- ◆ Wednesday, April 22, 2026 **Volunteer Recruitment Fair** 3:00pm-5:00pm; Building 455, Veterans Hall
- ◆ Thursday, April 23, 2026 **Volunteer Recognition Banquet** 10:00am, Tomah American Legion Hall

[Additional Volunteers are needed for Upcoming Special Events!](#) *(hyperlink)*

Or Scan QR Code for SignUpGenius link



Please see calendar on page 3 for more information to include times and location.

4/25/26 Earth Day Recycling Event, 8am-12pm—Bldg. 52 (sign up)

4/30/26 Creative Arts Coffeehouse; 6:00pm—Bldg. 455, Veterans Hall

All Volunteers are welcome to assist with any of the scheduled activities. Simply show up 30 minutes prior to event to offer your assistance. Don't forget to wear your Volunteer ID!

Happy Volunteer Appreciation Week! We just wanted to give a huge shoutout to all of you for your amazing dedication and compassion. Your time and effort make a world of difference for our Veterans at the Tomah VA, and we can't thank you enough. You are the heart and soul of our community, and we're so lucky to have the honor of working with you. Thank you for continuing to demonstrate what it means to serve with kindness and care.

Thanks for all you do,
Jen, Deb, Cindy & Heath



Current Donation Needs List

- Regular **coffee** (large tubs)
- Hand-sewn **clothing protectors** (ask Deb for details/themes)
- Holiday Gel **window clings** for Veterans Windows
- Create **Sorting and Reminiscing boxes**—fill small boxes with textured fabrics, old photos, household items to sort through.
- Men's Shoes—11.5



Current Volunteer Needs

- **Open Bowling**—assist inpatient Veterans to open bowling as noted on monthly calendar (every other Sunday, Tuesday afternoons, every other Thursday evenings, Saturday afternoons)
- **Volunteer Drivers** - drive VTN (DAV donated) vans transport Veterans to clinical appointments (Wausau, Stevens Point, Marshfield, Medford, Tomah, La Crosse)
- **Volunteer In-Home Visitor Program**—Veterans are matched with Volunteers, who live in the same community as the Veteran. Volunteers provide friendly social home visits-provide conversation, support, engage in simple activities (crafts, puzzles, games, reading, short walks, etc). Volunteers are not trained health care professional and will not provide any hands-on or medical care. Volunteers visit once per week for 2 – 4 hours, no more than eight hours per week.
- **Loving Spoonfuls**—specifically in building 409 during breakfast (7:00am) and dinner (4:30pm).
- **Evening Recreation activities** (1:1 or group) on 402b Rehab
- **Wausau Vet Center Outstation**—assist with phones, greeting visitors 0800-1630 M, W, Th, F; 11am--1930pm Tuesdays *volunteers can select hours based on their availability in these timeframes
- **Chapel Volunteers**—escort inpatient Veterans to Chapel as scheduled:
 - Sundays at 1:00pm - Protestant
 - Wednesdays at 2:45pm - Catholic Mass
- **Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC)**— Requesting more virtual volunteers to call Veterans who struggle with loneliness and social isolation (average 15 minute commitment /week)
- **Coffee Cart Volunteers** - Outpatient Clinic locations
 - Wausau/Rothchild (Friday)
 - Wisconsin Rapids (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
 - La Crosse (Tuesday, Friday)



Thank you Volunteers!



April 2026

Tomah VA Free Choice Activities—All Veterans Welcome

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>VA Library Hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Building 401, room 1100</p> 	<p>Need medical clearance & appointment for adaptive sports events</p> 	<p>Bowling Alley is located in Building 406, room 1615</p> 	<p>1 *1:00-3:00pm Pickleball Clinic; Bldg. 15</p> <p>2:15 Stations of the Cross, VA Chapel</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>2 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; La Crosse Vet Center</p>	<p>3 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15</p>	<p>4 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>5 Easter 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>8 1:30 Bingo (ALA Elroy) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>9 5:00-7:00pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>12 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>13 10:00am CLC Resident Council; Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>14 *12:30-2:30 Air Rifle Clinic Bldg. 15</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>15 *1:00-3:00pm Pickleball Clinic; Bldg. 15</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15</p>	<p>18 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>19 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>22 1:30 Bingo (VFWA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>23 5:00-7:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>5:30pm-7:00pm Project Healing Waters; American Legion Post 336, Onalaska, WI</p>	<p>24 9:30am Bingo (Scout Troop 30) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>25 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>Volunteer Appreciation Week April 19-25, 2026</p>						
<p>26 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>27 8:00am-2:00pm— Versiti Blood Drive; Bldg. 455, Veterans Hall.</p>	<p>28 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>6:00pm Bingo (DAV—Ch. 27) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>29 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>30 6:00pm—Creative Arts Coffeehouse, Bldg. 455, Veterans Hall</p>		



Volunteer In-Home Visitor Program

Volunteer with Veterans within your neighborhood and your community.

- Volunteers provide friendly social home visits. Volunteers are not trained health care professional and will not provide any hands-on or medical care.
- Veterans are matched with Volunteers, who live in the same community as the Veteran. Volunteers provide both friendly home visits and/or regularly scheduled periods of respite for the Veteran's caregiver.
- Volunteers are on-boarded (finger prints, background investigation, oriented, and trained) and must be least 18 years of age.
- Volunteers visit 1-2 times per week for 2-4 hours, no more than eight hours per week.
- Volunteers may also be assigned to provide telephone reassurance to Veterans as part of this program.

Benefits

- Many older Veterans suffer from depression and social isolation.
- Having a Volunteer visit them in their own home, who is an extra pair of eyes and ears for that Veteran and/or caregiver, enhances their lives in many ways.
- This social/emotional interaction has a positive impact on depression, suicide risk reduction and social isolation.
- Helps Veterans remain in their home thus avoiding institutional care.
- Fills the gap for those Veterans who are independent with their activities of daily living, but could benefit from friendly visits, respite or a telephone call.



Become a Volunteer

- **Veterans Welcome:** You'll experience the bond of helping a fellow Veteran and using your unique background and your lifetime of to help Veterans in need.
- **Non-Veterans Welcome:** You'll experience the satisfaction that comes from striking up new friendships and learning from "living history".
- **Seniors Welcome:** You'll experience the joy that comes from knowing you're using your unique set of skills and your lifetime of experience to help Veterans in need.

What does it mean to Volunteer

A Volunteer is someone who is compassionate, kind, idealistic and selfless they are individuals who puts the needs of others before one's own. Lend a helping hand to our Veterans and their families:

- Provide Conversation: With the Veteran and the caregiver, including listening to Veteran reminiscing.
- Provide Companionship: For the Veteran who cannot get out of their home easily, and/or who the caregiver cannot easily leave at home alone.
- Provide Support: To the caregiver who may be overwhelmed and/or unable to leave their Veteran alone.
- Engage in Simple Activities: Crafts, reading to Veteran, games, puzzles, short walks or watch TV.
- Provide a link to the VA Medical Center: Needs and concerns expressed by the Caregiver and Veteran will be communicated to the VA to ensure the best care for the Veteran.



Contact Voluntary Services for application
or more information:

VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov or
(608) 372-1727

Tomah VAMC Annual Earth Day Recycling Event

FREE! Electronics and Lead Acid Battery Recycling

Saturday, April 25th 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Bring from home: lead acid batteries and old home electronics for FREE recycling!

The home electronics recycling collection will be held outside Building 52, on the concrete pad in front of the building. Enter on 2nd Street of Tomah VA Campus, turn Left on "F" Street. Then Right on 1st Street. The turn-in point will be on the Left. Just follow the signs!

Please place all electronics items into the cardboard boxes on wood pallets, and place the batteries in the special battery box off to the side.

What kind of electronics can I bring?

Audio-Visual Equipment	Copiers	PDA's
Bar Coding Equipment	Fax Machines	Peripherals
Blackberry's	Floppy Drives	Play Station Consoles
Cable TV Boxes	Game Boys	Plotters
Calculators	Hard Drives and Memory	Power Supplies
Cameras	Laptops	Printers (NO Ink Cartridges or Toners)
CD ROM Drives	Mainframes and Servers	Telephone / Systems
Cell Phones	Microfiche Readers	Telescopes
Circuit Boards	Microscopes	Televisions- Limit of 5 per household (NO Tube Style or Console style)
Communication Systems	Modems	Test Equipment
Computer Equipment (NO tube style monitors)	MP3 Players	X-Box Consoles
Computer Scrap	Nintendo Consoles	
	Oscilloscopes	**No Electric Appliances

What kind of batteries can I bring?

Accepted:

All lead acid batteries (includes rechargeable)



NOT Accepted:

Nickel Cadium, Lithium Ion, Alkaline batteries, or rechargeable cordless drill batteries



For questions, contact Jennifer Bailey, GEMS Dept.: 608-372-1757 or 1-800-872-8662, Ext 61757 or via email jennifer.bailey8@va.gov

This event is **NOT** open to electronic recycling businesses or large home businesses.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Tomah VA Medical Center

