



7 quick, low cost project ideas for Hometown Pride committees

These work great as a first project or any time! They can be accomplished in less than 3 months, for less than \$300

1. Community clean up day

- a. Gather volunteers for a morning to clean up parks, trails, and road sides.
- b. Cost: Free or up to \$50 for snacks and supplies. Keep costs down by asking volunteers to bring their own gloves and trash bags.
- c. Resource: [How to do a community clean-up day](#)

2. Yard of the month or Holiday Decoration Contest

- a. All this takes is a sign and an hour of your time each month. Choose a great looking yard, knock on the door and put up the sign. The pictures are great for building social media buzz!
- b. Cost: \$25 for a “yard of the month” yard sign (re-use same sign each month)

3. Music in the park

- a. Ask around to find a local musician who fits your budget. Supplement their pay by “passing the hat” for tips. Borrow a PA system (and a volunteer to operate it) and buy simple snacks to sell as concessions.
- b. Cost: \$100-\$300 for musician fees and snacks

4. Tree or flower planting

- a. Find some bare spots in a local park, median, public building grounds, or downtown flower beds and recruit volunteers for a planting day.
- b. Cost: Free or up to \$300. Keep costs down by asking residents to divide and donate plants from their yard, or see if a local nursery will sell you tree saplings at cost.

5. Temporary sidewalk art

- a. Mark out square “canvases” on the sidewalk and let people sign up to paint them during a community art event. Or keep it simple with a sidewalk chalk contest. Amateur art can be endearing and enlivening, and the temporary nature means it doesn’t need to be polished.
- b. Cost: \$20-\$200 for chalk/paint. Keep costs down by providing only basic supplies and asking participants to bring any special paint colors or tools with them.

6. Start a “welcome wagon”

- a. Deliver welcome bags to new residents. Businesses can donate coupons and the city can provide important info. Your local utility or city hall can help you identify new residents.
- b. Cost: \$20-\$100 for bags, printing, and small gifts

7. Paint makeover

- a. Find public buildings, fences, park tables, or street poles that need a coat of paint. It’s amazing what half a dozen volunteers can do with a few gallons of paint!
- b. Cost: \$50-\$200 for paint and brushes. Keep costs down by asking volunteers to bring their own brushers, rollers, or even leftover paint (depending on what you’re painting).