

Noxubee Wildlife Refuge

### **PROJECT EXECUTIVE ITEM 1**

This semester at Noxubee Wildlife Refuge, we served the community of the Noxubee Wildlife Refuge and helped the staff members there. Our goals consisted of whatever our community partners set before us. We started on the sidewalk that the Dawg Daze service members made during Dawg Daze. We were charged with the beautification of the sidewalk they created. We accomplished this by digging up the wooden barriers. We also dug holes for posts and placed benches along the concrete trail. Our accomplishments have been important to the community because it made the Refuge more visitor-friendly. Placing the benches made it so that people can have easier access to the reserve. This makes it more pleasurable so that people will be more inclined to come and enjoy themselves in nature. Together, our action team has a total of 138.5 hours. We have assisted five children, and we have traveled a total of 90 miles.

### **PROJECT EXECUTIVE ITEM 2**

Over the last nine weeks, our Noxubee Wildlife Refuge action team has grown through our personal beliefs about the necessity of a few important leadership values. We have learned that communication is important because if we did not find a way to talk to each other appropriately, then we all would have been confused and nothing would have been accomplished. Therefore, we use GroupMe to text each other about the project and what needs to be accomplished within the individual week. Teamwork is everyone working together to complete a common goal. We worked together to tear up the concrete to get it done quickly and more efficiently. As a group, we learned that taking the initiative allows for time to be spent more productively. Individually, when we see something that needs to be done, doing it without

being told saves time and shows responsibility. Having this type of work ethic is very important when working in a group. Individual responsibility is detrimental when it comes to teamwork because we all are working towards a common goal and we each have to hold up our ends of the bargain to get the job done. Throughout the semester we learned that keeping a positive attitude is also needed in building an enjoyable environment for accomplishing our project. We finished the project efficiently because we worked together in a positive way.

Working together as a team, we learned that time management is also vital for success. When we started our project, we had to ensure that we stayed on task in order to get everything accomplished in a timely manner. Accountability is being responsible, liable, and ultimately answerable to higher authority. Knowing what is expected of us helps to keep us in check and to also push ourselves further than we believe we can. With all of us being held accountable by each other, we are able to encourage each other to do better than what we think we are capable of doing. Often others can know us better than we know ourselves, so having teammates that have an understanding for each individual group members allows for us to push each other to do better than we think that we can. Finally, we have learned that integrity is the most important characteristic that an individual can possess because integrity encompasses all of the other leadership values into one definition.