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**8th Annual Grand River Clean-up hosts
Volunteers from Guiding Light Mission****September 30, 2011**

How do you spend your Saturday mornings? For some, sleeping in or a lazy morning is often on the agenda. But that won't be the case for seven men from Guiding Light's program this Saturday, October 1. The men will be up bright and early at 7a.m. to head to Sixth Street Park, where they'll join about 450 other volunteers, including Mayor George Heartwell.

"I decided to volunteer my Saturday morning because it allows me to give back to the Grand Rapids community and help the environment at the same time," says Eric D, one of the S.T.A.R.T. program men.

Along with the West Michigan Environmental Action Council, the men will be transported to a section stretching along 12 miles. Once they dive into the river, they will spend two hours removing trash and debris from along the banks and in the Grand River.

"Our men enjoy giving back to the community," said Stuart. "The men have volunteered with Habitat for Humanity before; Clean Up, Green Up; The Mental Health Foundation; the Brian Diemer Amerikam 5K Race, and, most recently, Picnic Pops to name a few. It is encouraging to them in their recovery to give something back, and we love finding ways for them to support these great community initiatives."

For more details or to register to volunteer, visit grandrivercleanup.com.

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About Guiding Light Mission

Guiding Light Mission provides emergency overnight shelter for upwards of 68 men nightly, while also offering Christian based assistance to help men re-engage into our community. Guiding Light Mission also offers a residential substance abuse and life recovery program known as S.T.A.R.T. (Spiritual Truth And Recovery Training). The Mission is funded entirely by private donations and relies extensively on volunteers.

For more information about Guiding Light Mission, please visit www.lifeonthestreet.org. Follow Guiding Light Mission updates on Facebook at Life on the Street and on Twitter at @GRLifeOnTheSt.