

DISTRICT PULSE



Rotary
District 7545



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MONTHLY THEME

Water, Sanitation, and
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NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

March is Rotary’s monthly theme of Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), a time to recognize how access to clean water transforms health, education, and opportunity. District 7545 clubs continue to contribute meaningfully to this global priority through hands-on service and international partnerships.

Examples of these important WASH related projects reflect the practical, sustainable impact our district has delivered year after year including:

- supporting water-filter installations in rural communities abroad, helping families gain reliable access to safe drinking water.
- participating in global grant efforts to repair wells and expand water access for schoolchildren,
- leading local hygiene education drives that equip students with essential supplies and knowledge.

As we observe the WASH theme this month, clubs across District 7545 are encouraged to share their stories, explore new partnerships, and consider how we can expand our reach even further. Clean water changes everything and together, our district continues to bring health, dignity, and hope to communities near and far.

Our District Governor Elect, Julie Sawyer, is very busy preparing an informative and detailed learning experience for next year’s Assistant Governors, Presidents and Membership Chairs as well as providing grant training.

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This important event occurs next month on Apr 16-18, 2026, in Bridgeport, WV, which offers an excellent venue for sharing best practices and personal interaction. If you have not already registered, then please do so NOW. Don't wait. Use this link to navigate to the DACdb Event Calendar DACdb.com.

Finally, the portal is also open to register for our upcoming District Conference May 29-30, 2026, at Camp Dawson. Get ready for a weekend that blends inspiration, celebration, fellowship, and a true taste of West Virginia hospitality! This direct link provides access to the registration site as well as sponsorship opportunities: [District Conference - Rotary District 7545](#)

Yours in Rotary Service,

Rick

FROM THE DISTRICT CALENDAR

The District Governor is back on the road! From Zone Awards to Centennial Celebrations, there is much to celebrate! And in between these moments of fun, he'll be joining for some engagement opportunities.

Mar 2nd: Rotary Club of Ripley's Centennial Celebration

Mar. 3rd: Rotary Club of Putnam County to present the Zone Membership Award

Mar. 5th: Rotary Club of Milton to present the Zone Membership Award
Rotary Club of Huntington for a Club Mixer

Mar. 11th: Rotary Club of Barboursville to participate in a Virtual Membership Session

Mar. 14th: Participating in the Area 2 Annual Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Project

Mar. 14th: Rotary Club of New Martinsville to present the Zone Membership Award
Rotary Club of Moundsville for their Discover Rotary event



RYLA RYLA RYLA!

The 2026 District 7545 RYLA conference will be held at Jackson's Mill in Weston, WV May 8 - 10, 2026. All 9th and 10th grade students are invited to attend this leadership workshop weekend. Each student is sponsored by a Rotary Club at the cost of \$175/student. Applications are due by April 15, 2026. Club presidents should have received the applications which are also available on the District 7545 website or by contacting Dennis

Shreve at dmsgreve12@gmail.com. We must have at least 40 applicants to make it viable. A training weekend for the RYLA volunteers is scheduled for March 20 -22, 2026.



MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Both January and February 2026 brought encouraging momentum for our District's membership growth. We celebrated a net gain of nine members in January, followed by an even stronger gain of twelve members in February – a great way to build energy as we move deeper into the Rotary year.

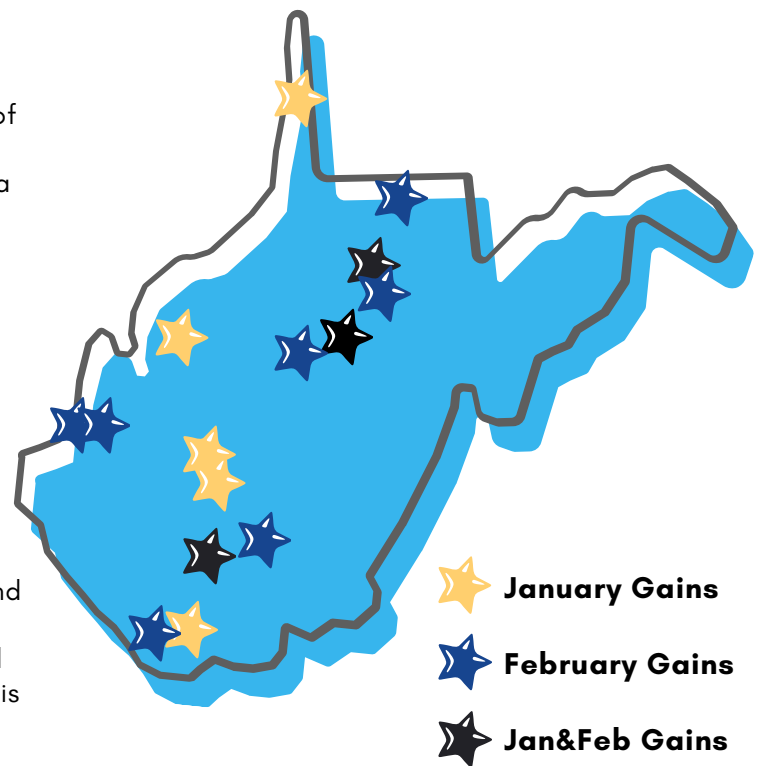
Clubs posting net gains in January include Buckhannon-Upshur, Canyon Rim, Charleston Vandalia, Fairmont, Princeton, Putnam County, Ripley, South Charleston, Weirton, and Wood County.

In February, the following clubs led the way: Bluefield, Buckhannon-Upshur, Canyon Rim, Ceredo-Kenova, E-Club, Fairmont, Grafton, Huntington, Morgantown North, Summersville, and Weston.

This progress is exciting as we begin the second half of the 2025-26 Rotary year – but our work is not finished. Fourteen clubs have yet to add a new member, and seventeen clubs are currently showing a net loss for the year. The opportunity in front of us is clear.

Overall, the District now stands at a net gain of seventeen members – a remarkable turnaround from a net loss of four members on January 1. That places us seventh among the seventeen Districts in our Zone.

We've made meaningful progress – and together, we can build on this momentum. With your continued focus and engagement, we will finish the year even stronger.



WHAT IS AN IMPACT CLUB? HERE'S SOME FACTS



Q: Is IMPACT a club or membership type?

A: IMPACT is an additional Innovative Club type.

Q: Is IMPACT a standalone club?

A: IMPACT is a type of Satellite Club (Companion Club1).

Q: Members are also “Active2” members of its Host club.

A: As an extension of the Host club, IMPACT is not intended to “separate” from the Host, but rather be a service project-focused part of the Host club’s membership. However, if desired, it can be a standalone club.

Q: What is the purpose of the IMPACT club?

A: The club’s primary mission is community service, perhaps seen as a “serviceonly” club without a commitment to traditional meetings, speakers, meals, etc. An IMPACT club’s service-only focus without meeting requirements offers Rotary membership as an opportunity to those who cannot attend meetings for various reasons.

Q: Do IMPACT club members attend meetings?

A: Members are welcome (but not expected to) attend Host club meetings. Members may also participate virtually in Host club hybrid meetings, if offered.

Q: How do they decide what service projects to do?

A: The IMPACT club creates and executes its own projects, also inviting Host club members to participate. They also assist with Host club projects.

Q: Are IMPACT members real Rotarians?

A: In Rotary International, IMPACT members look just like “Active” members of the Host club. In DACdb, the IMPACT club looks like a club subordinate to the Host club and has all functionality a Host club (or any club) has. If the IMPACT club chooses, it can have officers, calendar, online registration, PMail, Engagement tracking, etc. in DACdb.

Q: Where do IMPACT club membership numbers count?

A: IMPACT members are listed as “Active” members of the Host club on all Rotary International membership and Rotary Foundation reports.

Q: Does an IMPACT club have a board?

A: Generally, the club is self-governing, led by a “Chair” who is likely also on the Host club board. The IMPACT club elects its other key leaders.

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Q: Does the IMPACT club have committees?

A: The club may have some key committee chairs, such as Membership, Community Service, PI/PR, The Rotary Foundation. IMPACT clubs are encouraged to have a DEI committee or at least a chairperson. The IMPACT club needs an "administration" chair who coordinates with the Host club Secretary and Treasurer.

Q: Who manages dues billing/collection, etc.

A: Like any Satellite club, the Host club handles all "back office" functions, such as dues billing/collection, new member adds, terminations, etc.

Q: How are IMPACT club dues handled?

A: Like all Rotary Club members, IMPACT Members' dues include RI and District dues, plus whatever the club determines it needs for operational expenses. The club dues component for IMPACT members may be the same as or different from those of the "traditional" Host club members, often lower as there are typically no meals involved and also lower operating costs for the club itself.

Q: Does an IMPACT club have its own bylaws?

A: The IMPACT club may or may not have its own bylaws. The club can operate under the Host club's bylaws, which do need to be modified to reflect the IMPACT club's operation. If the IMPACT club chooses, it may have its own bylaws.

STRENGTHENING YOUR CLUB THROUGH THE ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (RLI)

Club members who truly understand the "Rotary experience" are especially valuable to a Rotary club. Knowledgeable members become active members and leaders who drive a club's success. There are three ways clubs can encourage members to grow through the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI):

- Promote Through Personal Testimony: Dedicate time during a club meeting for RLI alumni to share their experiences. Speak personally about how continuous training strengthens the club and keeps the Rotary mission vibrant.



- Remove Financial Barriers: Utilize the "4-for-3" option with Mid-Atlantic RLI. Consider budgeting for a set number of attendees per year or holding a drawing for newer members to attend at the club's expense.
- Lead by Example: Update your club Bylaws to require that Presidents and Presidents-elect complete at least one RLI level during their leadership track.

You can become one of those club members who help to make your club successful. On March 28 at FSU your faculty is ready to facilitate an engaging, high-impact learning experience. Look for emails from Jane Stout, RLI District Chair. They have a personalized registration link for you. Or, you can contact Jane at jane.bg.stout@gmail.com.

DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT 2026

This year's District Service project allows us to champion two vital causes: Protecting the Environment (one of Rotary's seven areas of focus) and Supporting Our Veterans. In addition, clubs can participate through their local effort or when attending the District Conference.

We are partnering with Tech for Troops to divert electronic waste from landfills through their proven recycling program. Beyond environmental sustainability for your community, this partnership directly assists veterans by providing the training, education, and technology they need to thrive.

While the [Tech for Troops website](#) outlines their full range of services, our focus is specifically on the items listed below: "Items We Are Looking For" and "Items Recycled for Free." Let's work together to keep these electronics out of landfills while making a meaningful difference for those who served. How to Participate.

The first step is to collect eligible items at your club. From there, you can choose one or two ways to contribute:

METHOD #1: IN-PERSON DROP-OFF

Bring your collected donations to the District Conference on May 29 or 30. We will be accepting any items from the "Items We Are Looking For" and the "Recycle for Free" list.

METHOD #2: DONATE TO TECH FOR TROOPS

No specific amount is requested. Simply donate as you feel led. If you choose to do so, please communicate to the non-profit that this is part of the effort by District 7545.

METHOD #3: GIVE BACK BOX SHIPPING REQUEST

Give Back Box label from Tech for Troops. Each label costs \$20 and covers up to 25 lbs of electronics. To support this effort, the district will reimburse your club for these labels (up to 115 boxes total for the district). Access the program at <https://techfortroops.org/support/give-back-box/>. The items to recycle would be the same as Method 1.

I hope you will participate in this effort as we unite across the district for good. Please let me know how your club will participate and contact me with any questions you might have. Please direct any question you might have to Jane Stout at jane.bg.stout@gmail.com.





E-WASTE RECYCLING GUIDE

Millions and millions of pounds—That's how much electronic waste people are tossing in landfills each year! We extend the life of electronics by refurbishing and gifting them to America's Active Duty transitioning Military, homeless and impoverished Veterans and their families.

ITEMS WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR

- Working and non-working laptops with power adapters*
- Desktop computers*
- Working flat panel monitors
- iPads and tablets
- Cell phones
- Keyboards, mice, and other computer parts
- Wiring (Cat5 and Cat6)
- All other electronics you are throwing away

*All hard drives are wiped prior to recycling or refurbishing at no cost.

ITEMS WE ACCEPT & RECYCLE FREE OF CHARGE

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Answering Machines | Duplicators | Laptop Batteries | Printed Circuit Board | Telephones |
| Calculators | DVD Players | Laptops | Radios | Testing Equipment |
| Camcorders | Electric Motors | Mainframe Equipment | Routers | Transparency Makers |
| Cameras | Electric Typewriters | Modems | Scanners | Two-Way Radios |
| Cassette Recorders | Electronic Gaming Systems | Motherboards | Smart Watches | UPS - Power Supplies |
| Compact Disc Players | File servers | MP3 Players | Speakers | VCRs |
| Computer Equipment | Household Electronics | Networking Equipment | Stereos & Components | Wii Game Systems |
| Computer Speakers | Hubs | Nintendo Game Systems | Switches | Word Processors |
| Cordless Telephones | Keyboards / Mice | Pagers | Tape Players | Xbox Game Systems |
| Cables & Cords | Lab Equipment | PCI Cards | Telecom Equipment | |

ITEMS WE ACCEPT/RECYCLE/DESTROY FOR A FEE

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ITEMS \$1.50 PER POUND:
Batteries - Boat/Vehicle
Copiers
Cracked Monitors
CRT Monitors
CRT TV
Fax Machines
LCD TVs & Monitors
Printers
Scanners | DATA DESTRUCTION FEES:
<i>Shredded at a later date, securely stored until destruction.</i>
CDs, Floppies, DVDs, Thumb Drives - \$1.50 per pound
<i>Pricing Example: 100 CDs - \$4.50</i>
Cell Phones with Removable Battery - \$5
Flash Drives and Thumb Drive Shredding - \$1.00 each | CERTIFIED HARDDRIVE DESTRUCTION:
<i>Receive a Certificate of Destruction when service is complete</i>
Single Overwrite - \$7.00
Department of Defense 5220.22M - 3 Pass - \$9.50
Department of Defense 5220.22M - 7 Pass - \$19.00
HMG Infosec Standard #5 - Baseline - \$11.00
HMG Infosec Standard #5 - Enhanced - \$21.00
NIST 800-88r1 (recommended) - \$7.50
NIST 800-88r1 - 3 Pass - \$9.50
Physical Destruction Only - \$13.00 |
|---|--|---|

ITEMS WE DO NOT ACCEPT

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Air Conditioners | Holiday Lights | Medical Equipment | Light bulbs | Toasters |
| Alkaline batteries | Hoverboards | Microwaves | Power Tools | Vacuum Cleaners |
| Electric Toothbrushes | Kitchen Appliances | Nickel-metal Hydride Batteries | Smoke Detectors | |
| Fire Detectors | Lithium Batteries? | | Thermostats | |

Don't fill up our landfills with your used tech!
Give it new life by responsibly recycling with us!
Save the environment, support a Veteran, and receive a tax deduction!



DONATE

CONNECT

VOLUNTEER

TECHFORTROOPS.ORG
INFO@TECHFORTROOPS.ORG | 804.521.7979

RS Certified 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Tax ID#47-1466185

Let's Connect:



www.rotarydistrict7545.org
rotarydistrict7545@gmail.com