

Bring Your Family To

THE GREAT EGG HUNT

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THE GREAT EGG HUNT

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Thanks for saying YES and being a local leader in your community.

The Great Egg Hunt is an awesome opportunity for you to unite your community and create fun for the kids and families you serve. This is an easy event to produce, especially when you enroll a few people to assist with the festivities.

On the next page, you will find a step by step guide outlining everything you need to plan for your Great Egg Hunt community party.



10 STEPS TO SUCCESS

THE GREAT EGG HUNT

1. Choose your location: Coordinate with your local HOA and get their permission and partnership on hosting your Great Egg Hunt if holding it in a community greenspace. Look for a good grassy common area with bushes and flowers to hide eggs. Nooks and crannies allow you to hide eggs and make it more challenging for older kids. While Easter egg hunts are usually held outdoors, it's good to have a backup plan in case the weather does not cooperate. Schools, public parks, churches and large grassy areas attached to shopping malls are often used. Of course, you will need to obtain written permission, along with any conditions of use, from someone in a position of authority at the property. Get that agreed to as soon as possible. If you are hosting a neighborhood egg hunt, you may want to spread the hunt in the common area, over several adjacent yards or at a nearby park. If your hunt will be indoors, be sure to spread the hunt over several rooms and consider safety.

2. Set the date: Schedule your egg hunt for the Saturday before Easter (if possible). As for time, the most common choice is for late morning or early afternoon, typically starting around 10 am and ending by 2 pm.

3. Spread the word; Ask your local HOA to spread the word with the neighbors in their community. Post an event on the Facebook community page and invite the community to attend. You can also promote your Great Egg hunt on Nextdoor, EventBrite, MeetUp, & other community event pages. Another great way to get the word out is to tape your event flyers to the mailboxes in your community 1-2 weeks before the event. Ask parents to tell their kids so they all get excited and invite their friends to your Great Egg Hunt. Then, post or go live on social media when you are collecting candy donations and stuffing the eggs. You'll be recognized as the Community Connector helping bring everyone together in a fun, wholesome event the whole family can enjoy. Praise and tag your volunteers and ask them to start spreading the word too. Soon, you'll have the whole neighborhood and community coming together to create an awesome event kids and families will love.

4. Enroll volunteers: Ask parents to volunteer if they would like to participate in preparing or hiding eggs. Moms and dads are often eager to get involved and help create a wholesome fun activity for their kids and neighbor kids. You may need help stuffing eggs, putting up flyers, hiding eggs, and of course running the event. You can post a call for volunteers on your community Facebook page or use SignUpGenius.com to send out a signup form to ask families to RSVP and contribute with labor, supplies or cash. You may want to get your volunteers together on a zoom call to decide the details and assign responsibilities and deadlines. Ask if anyone has experience running previous Easter egg hunts. Some topics you can discuss are how many participants do you expect to have? How will you organize age groups? What games and other activities do you want to have? Talking through these options with your volunteer team will help you create a fabulously fun family event you will become famous for in your community.

5. Collect eggs & donations: Ideally, you will have about a dozen eggs per child. Get the community involved by giving them the opportunity to donate plastic eggs, candy and any other relevant donations. Invite local businesses and your referral partners to contribute and participate as well. The size of your community will determine the quantity of plastic eggs and candies you will need. You may want to ask families to donate to the hunt or invite other home service professionals who also serve your community to contribute to the cause. If you are accepting candy by donation, only accept sealed bags of individually foil wrapped candies like chocolate eggs, mini MilkyWay, 3 Musketeers, Twix, etc. Choose no-nut candies to avoid nut allergies. If treats have nuts, make sure you communicate clearly so everyone stays healthy and safe. You will want to set a deadline for receiving the candy and eggs so you have time to have an egg stuffing event. Emphasize that each child needs to bring his or her own bucket, pail or bag to collect eggs. Of course, while much of the fun is collecting the eggs, discovering what's inside is also part of it. You can fill plastic eggs with different types of candy, coins, marshmallow chicks, temporary tattoos, stickers, and even coupons to local businesses. You might even consider hiding special grand prize tickets in some of the eggs to get the kids super excited. Just remember, Easter egg hunts are about having fun; not competition.

6. Start Your Hunt: As families start showing up, greet and guide them to the day's activities. If your event will be large, you may need a megaphone or PA system with microphone and speakers to ensure people hear the instructions. Just inform people about the optional activities and make periodic announcements so participants know when the fun begins.

7. Hiding Eggs: Hiding eggs will take some time so create gaps between age groups to reset your Great Egg Hunt for the next age group. Allow plenty of time to put out the eggs, set up tables, signs, rope off areas using "police tape from a party store, etc., before everyone arrives. If you will have vendors, be sure they come to set up in plenty of time. Get volunteers in place to watch over the egg fields, so kids aren't tempted to go in early! Most hunts simply spread the eggs out on a large grassy lawn, but if you do decide to hide them, keep these tips in mind:

- **Hide eggs at or below the eye level of your children.**
- **Keep eggs out of thorny plants and other foliage that may be poisonous.**
- **Keep hidden eggs far from electrical outlets or plugs.**
- **Do not hide eggs in holes in tree trunks or the ground.**
- **Do not hide eggs around fragile, glass or breakable items.**
- **Do not hide eggs in any animal's home, food bowl or play area.**

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8. Set up age groups: We recommend you schedule your Great Egg Hunt with different age groups going at different times so the younger, smaller children have an opportunity to find plenty of eggs without getting hurried or worried about older kids. The size of your community will affect the age ranges. Here's our recommendation, but you are free to coordinate your age ranges and schedule based on the size of your community:

Under 3 years old	10:00 AM
3-5 years old	10:45 AM
6-9 years old	11:30 AM
10+ years old	12:15 AM

9. Plan Family Fun: To help the whole family have fun, invite families to bring a picnic and play together. While kids are waiting for their age group to start their hunt, you can coordinate fun games and activities and award prizes per age group.

Family fun activities can include:

- o Freeze Tag
- o Red light-Green Light
- o Egg Decorating with Paint & Stickers
- o Great Egg Hunt Coloring sheets
- o Face Painting
- o Sidewalk Chalk
- o Bubbles
- o Balloon Animals
- o Temporary Tattoos
- o Bounce House
- o Live Music



10. Clean up: Make sure you have some volunteers to help clean up once the fun and games are done. Put a number of large containers around, clearly labeled as either "trash" or "Put your empty plastic eggs here for next year!" You'll probably get 80% of your eggs back! And always leave the area better than you found it, if you want to be allowed to use it next year!

**THANKS AGAIN FOR BEING PART OF
THE GREAT EGG HUNT.
TOGETHER WE CAN CONNECT AND CREATE
WHOLESOME FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE
IN OUR COMMUNITIES.**