

Habitat for Humanity of Washington County

Volunteer Guidelines

Building a house with other volunteers can be very challenging for everyone involved. You will discover new strengths and talents and gain a great deal of satisfaction from the work you have accomplished.

When you arrive on the job site, it is imperative that you identify the individual in charge of your group and introduce him or her to the site supervisor. All questions and problems should be addressed with the site supervisor, project manager or executive director. It is important to maintain clear lines of communication for safety reasons.

We all desire to see quick results, but we must also keep in mind that all volunteers do not have equal skills. Everyone must recognize their own limitations and stay within them. The following guidelines will help make the job site safe, orderly and enjoyable.

- A completed “Release and Waiver of Liability” form and a “Volunteer Registration and Sign-in Sheet” must be completed by each volunteer prior to beginning the first day of work on the jobsite.
- The Habitat insurance policy requires all volunteers be 14 years of age or older.
- Wear clothing you won’t mind getting dirty. Check the weather and dress appropriately. If the weather is warm, bring sunscreen and wear a hat to protect your face. If the weather is cool, dress in layers. Regardless of the weather, shirt sleeves must cover the shoulders. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required for your safety! Work gloves and protective eyewear are also considered a necessary part of your working wardrobe. In addition, Habitat has a minimum number of hard hats that can be worn during the day and left at the job site.
- Working on a construction site can be strenuous, especially if you are unaccustomed to physical labor. Please, be sure to pace yourself and take breaks when necessary. Even those who are in shape and used to hard labor should take a break as needed.
- Drink plenty of liquids while working, especially water. We recommend you bring a pre-filled container for your personal use. Some job sites do not have running water. Bottled & refill water will be provided.
- Please label all of your tools. Unmarked tools left on the job site become the property of HFHWC.
- Always pay attention to the condition of the worksite. Keep tools and materials out of walkways. Think of SAFETY FIRST!
- All mechanical tools, powered by battery or electricity, must be inspected by the site supervisor prior to usage. Please identify any broken tools or equipment to the supervisor immediately.
- Cameras are encouraged! Please feel free to document your day and share your experience with others.
- Be positive, supportive, open and trusting! But most important, know that you are here to serve God through your neighbor in need.
- Thank you for sharing your time, talents and gifts with Habitat. You are a blessing. Come again soon!

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