



CONSTRUCTION VOLUNTEER FACT SHEET

What skills are required?

If you have not volunteered with Habitat in the past we ask that you attend a New Volunteer Orientation (volunteer groups do not need to attend this, we will hold the orientation on the build site). No prior construction skills are required - just a positive attitude and willingness to learn! On-site superintendents, crew leaders and house leaders train volunteers the specific task the day of. Construction volunteers should be able to comfortably lift 50 lbs.

What do I wear?

- Dress for the weather and for comfort, but no open-toed shoes. Tennis shoes / sneakers are fine.
- It's generally a good idea to bring a long-sleeved t-shirt and work gloves.
- Please no spaghetti strap tank tops and shorts must have an inseam of 3" or longer.

What do I bring?

- **TOOLS** - Please bring basic tools if you have them such as:
 - 16' Tape Measure
 - Phillips and flathead Screwdriver
 - Safety glasses
 - Claw Hammer
 - Utility Knife
 - Carpenter's pencil
 - Tool belt or nail apron
 - Hard hat (if you have one)
- **FOOD/WATER:** Bring plenty of water (especially during hot weather) or Gatorade type beverage, lunch and snacks (*please know lunch is not provided*).

Is there an age requirement?

Yes, we require our volunteers to be at least 16 with supervision, 18 years old without. (Due to our insurance policy). Individual youth (16-17 years old) are required to have an adult supervisor accompany them on site. Youth groups (16-17 years old) are required to have (1) adult supervisor per every (4) children.

What should I expect for a regular volunteer day (non- Blitz Build)?

- 9a- meet at the warehouse (weekday) or worksite (Saturday, Build weeks) **SIGN WAIVER and ATTENDANCE SHEET**
- 9:10-9:30a: House Leader huddle: discuss the day's activities and Safety talk, workday instruction
- 9:30-11:45a: construction work
- 11:45a-12:30p: lunch
- 12:30p-2:45p: construction work
- 2:45p-3:00p: clean-up
- 3:00p: end of work day

What is a Blitz Build Week?

The Blitz Build week is a special volunteer week where we will rough frame multiple homes at the same time. Volunteers work Monday-Friday, from 8:30am- 5pm during this week. During our July and September Build Weeks, additional houses will be open for drywall crews. No prior experience is required, just a great attitude and will to learn!

Typical Blitz Build Week work schedule:

- **Monday:** Build and raise first floor walls, second floor cap (time permitting)
- **Tuesday:** Second floor cap, second floor exterior walls, start porch work
- **Wednesday:** Finish second floor exterior walls, second floor interior walls, start staircase, continue porch, trusses arrive (install if time permits).
- **Thursday:** Finish trusses, sheathe roof, finish porch, install windows, and start siding
- **Friday:** Finish Roof (if necessary), framing check-list, window and exterior door installation, Siding

Typical Blitz Build Week Daily Itinerary:

- **8:00a** Volunteers arrive on-site
- **8:15a** Devotions (optional)
- **8:30a** Team Huddle, Safety Talk, then start working
- **11:30** Lunch (first shift)
- **12:15** Lunch (second shift)
- **1:00p** Continue working
- **4:45p** Clean-up
- **5:00p** Finish for the day

What to Bring for a Blitz Build workday:

- Tool belt or apron
- Framing Hammer
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- Utility Knife
- Speed Square

Why is there a minimum of 3 volunteer days required during Blitz Build Weeks?

Due to the tight schedule of the Build week and need to complete the homes by the end of the week, it has been found that having brand new volunteer crews each day slows down the process. By having consistent crews, volunteers are able to complete more work and keep on schedule. If you can only commit to one or two volunteer days, please sign up for one of regular workdays. Our regular volunteer days are from 9a-3p, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Who do I contact for more information?

Groups please contact Katie Kowalski, Volunteer Services Director at 414-562-6100x14, kkowalski@milwaukeehabitat.org

Individual volunteers please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 414-562-6100x27, volunteer@milwaukeehabitat.org