

Frequently Asked Questions: Volunteering at Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley

What skills are required to volunteer?

None! We love experienced volunteers, but we have many volunteers that have no experience. When you arrive on site, our construction site managers, supervisors, and CORE volunteer team members will teach you everything you need to know to have a safe, productive volunteering experience.

When can I volunteer?

Habitat for Humanity of the LV posts all volunteer dates on our “Volunteer Hub.” The Volunteer Hub is our online volunteer database and volunteer scheduler. All volunteers participating with us are required to create an account. You only need to create this account once. Volunteers must also complete a liability waiver and photo release form online. Click this link to create your account: <http://habitatlehighvalley.volunteerhub.com>

Where can I volunteer?

You can either volunteer to build at one of our construction sites (located throughout Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton), or you can volunteer at our Habitat ReStore in Whitehall, PA. There are also opportunities to volunteer in our office Monday through Thursday.

Can individuals sign up for a day that is listed as "RESERVED?"

No, volunteer days marked “RESERVED” are set aside for Team Build groups and organizations. Individual volunteers may sign up on any build day that is not marked “RESERVED.”

Is there a minimum age requirement for volunteering?

Volunteers must be at least **16 years old** to work on our construction site. **All 16 & 17 year old volunteers must be accompanied by a parent/guardian on your build day.** Volunteers must be **18 years old** to volunteer at the **ReStore** or on a normal **build** without a parent/guardian.

What does volunteering at the ReStore entail?

Volunteer work at the ReStore includes, but is not limited to: cleaning donated items, paint recycling and mixing, pricing and sorting items, greeting customers, moving furniture from donation center to sales floor, general store housekeeping, and providing customer service.

Where do I build?

Once you have scheduled and confirmed your build day, all important information (site location, required paperwork, proper dress, directions) will be posted on the Volunteer Hub. All of our sites are in the Lehigh Valley area, are accessible by public transit, and generally have street parking available.

What will happen when I arrive at the site?

At the beginning of each build day, a Habitat Lehigh Valley staff member and build site manager will start the morning with an introduction, a safety talk, and instructions. The group will then break into crews to work on the various building tasks, as assigned by the site manager. Don't be nervous – new volunteers will be paired with experienced CORE volunteers to learn many new skills!

How long do build days last?

Volunteers build with us from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

Is my volunteer day cancelled if inclement weather is predicted?

You will be contacted by us via email if a build day is cancelled for any reason. Our site supervisors can be reached for emergencies, and they make sure to have a plan in place. All their contact information is listed on the Volunteer Hub.

How often can I volunteer?

You can volunteer as little or as much as you like! We encourage everyone in the community to volunteer with us as much as they are able. It is a rewarding, fulfilling, and engaging experience for all involved!

What should I bring?

- Proper attire: comfortable clothing that you do not mind getting dirty and/or potentially ruined. Dress with the weather for the day in mind.
- **Closed-toed shoes are required.**
- Food & drink: please provide your own water bottle and packed lunch for the day. Bottled water is also available on site. Grocery stores and convenience stores are within a short driving distance of most build sites and the ReStore.
- ***Please make sure you review all COVID-19 safety guidelines and requirements (i.e. all volunteers must wear a self-provided mask) on the Volunteer Hub.***

I still have questions.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any further questions. Contact our team at volunteer@habitatlv.org or 610 776 7737.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with us!