



Building houses, building hope

Construction Volunteer FAQ

When do we start building?

Rockford Habitat always declares the first Saturday of May as Framing Day. We will frame homes either from wall panels built off-site or with the traditional "stick build."

What time and days do you build?

Our schedule is simple. Every Saturday, beginning the first Saturday in May, we work from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 4:00 p.m. Stay an hour or stay all day. We are flexible!

Do you only work on Saturdays?

NO! Construction will also take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in working during the week, please call the Habitat office for specific details about where crews will be working, as some houses may not be active during weekdays.

Do I have to be a skilled builder?

We need as many construction volunteers as possible. Construction or handyman experience is helpful, but not required! Bring your friends; skilled, or wanting to learn. They will enjoy the chance to help build the foundation for a better life.

Do I need to register?

You will need to check in at the registration tent (see map) when you arrive. Here you will receive a short orientation, safety review, and be required to complete and sign a waiver form. You will be randomly assigned to a house based on skills and available work, unless you specifically request a home.

What do I wear?

Please make sure to dress appropriately for a construction site: good work shoes, comfortable clothes – but not too loose fitting, and gloves, if you have them.

My daughter is 16 years old. Can she help?

Our age policy states that any volunteer who is 16 years of age and less than 18 years of age must have a minor waiver and medical form completed by their legal guardian. This can be found at our website or by calling the office at 815-636-4573. Due to our insurance coverage, no one under 16 years of age can volunteer on the construction site.

Can I bring my own tools?

Many volunteers bring their tool belts. If you do, please label or keep a close eye on your tools. Habitat provides tools, gloves, safety glasses, and hard hats for everyone. A volunteer may mistake your drill for one from the Habitat trailer. It is your responsibility to leave with the same tools you brought.

Can I bring a group of friends to help?

Certainly. However, if you are bringing a group of 10 or more volunteers please call the office in advance. This will help us provide the appropriate number of lunches and make sure there is enough work to keep all volunteers busy that particular day. The number is 815-636-4573.

Building houses makes me hungry. Do I bring a lunch?

No need, thanks to the generosity of local churches, sack lunches are donated every Saturday and Habitat provides a beverage. Unfortunately, lunch is not provided for the Tuesday/Thursday work crew.

*More questions? Please call our office at 815-636-4573.
Thank you ... and we look forward to meeting you this summer!*