

Build Site: What to expect.

Build Days:

We build as a community every Wednesday and Saturday, 8am to 4pm. If you are bringing a group that Habitat is not aware of, please contact our Americorps VISTA Chris Zahasky at the Habitat Office (406) 257-8800; at Cell: (406) 253-2718; or Email: zahas002@gmail.com, so that lunch providers have enough food and that we are properly prepared. Feel free to show up as an individual or contact our Americorps VISTA to let us know you will be coming. If you would like to build on any other day of the week please also contact our Americorps VISTA to set up a day.

Directions:

The build site is located at **1481 Second Street East in Whitefish**. The site will be marked with a Habitat sign; it is past the baseball fields on your right.

Directions to the home site:

- Starting at the intersection of Spokane Avenue and East Second Street in Whitefish.
- Go East on East Second Street
- Pass the Memorial Park baseball fields
- Continue ½ mile to the build site on your right. You'll see the Habitat for Humanity trailer parked nearby, and that's where we will be!



Parking:

Please park in the field across from site via the driveway at 1500 2nd St E and stay within the fenced in area.

What to bring:

- Water bottle (we will have water at the site)
- Do not worry if you do not have personal tools. We have plenty of tools for volunteers on site.
- If you have personal tools such as a hammer, tape measure, carpenter's pencil, work gloves, safety glasses and would like to use them, please feel free to bring them. You may wish to put your name on your tools.
- The site does not have a lot of shade, so be prepared to be in the sun.
- Appropriate clothing for all types of weather, whether it's hot, cold, or rainy.

What to Leave at Home:

- All valuables including jewelry.

- Personal power tools
- No drugs or alcohol at the work site and please be courteous of your smoking habit and do not do it on site.

What to wear:

- Closed toe shoes. Tennis shoes are most common on the work site. You will not be allowed to volunteer on site if you wear sandals or flip flops.
- Wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty or paint on. Light clothing is recommended for the hot weather. Layering clothing is recommended for cold weather. We work year round and work outside in the rain. The only time we close site because of weather is if it is too dangerous. Please wear rain pants and jacket when working in the rain.

What to expect on our construction site:

- **The day begins 8:00 am and ends at about 4:00 pm.**
- We do not discriminate on basis of race, creed, ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.
- All volunteers must be 16 years of age or older. Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 21 years old. All youth must have a youth waiver form completed and signed by a parent or guardian prior to volunteering on site. Supervised youth under 16 years of age may only do non-construction related activities like lunch duty, landscaping, painting, clean-up, etc.
- If you are supervising a youth group please supervise students closely, keeping safety in mind.
- Water is available all build days; coffee is available on Saturday build days
- Steve Manaras, Volunteer Site Supervisor, and Chris Zahasky, Americorps VISTA, will be on-site to manage construction and overall build site operations.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

- Greet volunteers and help with paperwork
- Serve Lunch
- Help with general cleanliness and safety

Lunch arrangements:

- On Saturdays, the scheduled volunteer build group will sponsor lunch for the site that day
- On Wednesdays, congregations or other Habitat partners will sponsor lunch for the site that day
- Individuals can always opt to bring their own lunch

Breakdown of the day:

- 7:45 – 8:00am: Volunteers should arrive, complete the sign-in process
- 8:00: Site Supervisor provides a morning orientation, safety talk, and assigns tasks for the day.
- Until approximately noon; Work on assigned task. If you need another task or are uncomfortable working on the task you were assigned, please talk to the Site Supervisor. Please be patient if the Site Supervisors are working with other volunteers. The mornings are very busy on site and it takes time to get everyone going. Thanks you in advance for your patience.
- 12:00 – 12:30-pm: Lunch with the crew.
- 1:00pm – 3:00 pm: back to tasks
- 3:00pm – 4:00 pm Clean-up!
- Breaks: we do not have a set break time but please, take a break if needed.

Safety:

- Be conscious of the safety of others and yourself
- Do not continue working on a task if you are uncomfortable with it, unable to do it, or feel uncertain about it.
- Please keep close watch on your youthful charges.
- If you have any questions please ask.

Safety Equipment:

- Hard hats are to be worn when any overhead tasks are being performed, or when required by the task supervisor.
- Volunteers are encouraged to wear protective glasses and hearing protection anytime he/she is operating power tools.

For further questions please contact Americorps VISTA Chris Zahasky at the Habitat Office (406) 257-8800; at Cell: (406) 253-2718; or email: zahas002@gmail.com.

Thank you for volunteering with Habitat for Humanity of Flathead Valley. You are helping the dream of homeownership become a reality for many local, hard-working, deserving families in need.