

COVID-19

Safety Protocols

for Volunteers

In the interest of public health and personal safety, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (TCHFH) is instituting temporary safety protocols for all volunteer opportunities on site. These protocols are tailored to volunteer operations, using Minnesota Department of Labor (MN OSHA) and CDC COVID-19 guidelines.

Expectations for Persons Exposed To, or Exhibiting Symptoms of COVID-19

STAY AT HOME!

No person(s) may visit any TCHFH property who within the last 14 days, has experienced any of the following symptoms (personally, or within their household):

- Fever (100.4°F or greater)
- Persistent Cough
- Shortness of Breath
- Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Headache
- Sore Throat
- New loss of smell or taste

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, stay at home regardless of whether you have tested positive for COVID-19 or are unable to be tested. If you have any questions, or if you would like any clarification on what meets the above criteria, please contact your TCHFH contact before your arrival.

If Symptoms Appear While on Site or After a Day on Site

1. Immediately return home and contact your health care provider as appropriate.
2. Notify your TCHFH contact and site supervisor that you are experiencing symptoms.
3. Volunteer Management will ask who you have been in close contact with in the past two weeks.
4. Volunteer Management or your site supervisor will alert those who were in close contact.
5. Your health status will remain confidential.

PPE, Hygiene, & Social Distancing

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Masks must be worn by staff and volunteers on site at all times. Single use and reusable masks will be available for every volunteer on site, but if you have your own, please bring and wear it.
- Vinyl or latex gloves will be available on site, but won't be required for all tasks.

Distancing

- At all times, keep at least six (6) feet between individuals to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.
 - Some construction activities require working closer than six (6) feet. In such cases it is acceptable to work more closely for intermittent intervals (5 minutes or less). If work is expected to be required for longer periods, it is recommended to wear N95 respirators. If respirators are not available, an approved homemade mask is acceptable.
 - Respirators or masks are not a substitute for distancing.
- There will be a maximum of 8 volunteers permitted on site at a time. TCHFH will limit the total number of individuals on-site to no more than ten (10).
- Each person should use their own set of tools (hand tools, power tools, ladders, power cords, etc.) and materials (screws, nails, etc.) during the course of work where possible.
 - Habitat will provide all necessary tools, but you are encouraged to bring your own hand tools if you have them.
- Work on separate floors or areas when possible while working on the interior of a home.
- Work on separate parts of the house while working on the exterior of a home where possible.

Stay Safe While Volunteering

- Wash hands with soap and water frequently for at least 20 seconds.
 - TCHFH will provide adequate handwashing stations at all sites, including those without running water.
 - Hand sanitizer is recommended if handwashing is not available.
- Minimize contact with common surfaces (door handles, etc.)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover all coughs and sneezes with your elbow.
- In all instances, maintain at least a 6-foot distance between people.

Food and Water

- Avoid buffet style lunches and snacks. Volunteers should bring their own lunch or groups may cater using boxed lunches, preferably from local businesses.
- Each site will have a supply of bottled water, but to minimize contact with shared surfaces, we recommend you bring your own as well.

Additional Sanitation

- TCHFH staff will sanitize hard surfaces and all tools on site after each work shift.
- ReStore staff will clean and sanitize common areas, bathrooms, carts, and hard top surfaces on a regular basis (start, mid-day, end of day) and as needed. More thorough cleaning will take place during non-access hours.

If you have any further questions, please contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@tchabitat.org or 612-305-7114