



Construction Site Safety and Conduct

Safety is everybody's concern, and it's always an important consideration at any construction site. Building construction can be one of the most dangerous occupations. Since Habitat for Humanity work crews normally have a high proportion of inexperienced people, everyone must pay particular attention to safety.

Liability and First Aid:

- You and Charleston Habitat For Humanity (CHFH) share the responsibility for establishing and maintaining a safe work environment.
- CHFH will attempt to assure a safe work environment and to comply with federal, state, and local safety regulations. In turn, you are expected to obey safety rules and to exercise caution in all your work activities.
- Every volunteer must fill out a liability release form before working on the construction site. Each volunteer under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian signature of consent. Liability forms are good for one year.
- Each time you come to the CHFH work site, you must sign-in for record-keeping purposes of everyone present.
- First Aid kits are available on every work site.
- You are also asked to report any unsafe conditions to your supervisor immediately. Any accident, which results in injury, regardless of how insignificant, must be reported promptly to your supervisor.

Proper Attire

- Dress comfortably and appropriately for the work and weather conditions. Wear something you don't mind getting dirty.
- Wear work boots or tennis shoes. Flip-flops or sandals are NOT allowed on the work site.
- Wear sunscreen and bug spray if necessary
- Do not wear any jewelry

Tools

- Use of power tools requires permission from Habitat Supervisors and crew leaders– no one under 18 may operate power tools
- Always use safety glasses and ear plugs when operating power tools
- Never lower or carry a power tool by its cord
- Anyone working with a hammer at a height should wear a hammer loop or tool belt; and when not in use, the hammer should be kept in the loop or belt and not placed on a sloping surface or other precarious position.
- Do not carry sharp tools in your pockets
- Razor knives should always be closed after each use

Ladders

- Inspect a ladder before you use it. If you don't feel safe on the ladder, don't use it.
- Place the ladder on solid footing.
- One person on the ladder at a time
- Always have a second person holding the ladder – the buddy system works best

Safety Tips

- Take breaks and drink lots of water to prevent dehydration or heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion is triggered by excessive sweating and not enough fluids.
- Wear hardhats if you are working under someone else
- Remember to wear gloves when picking up trash and debris on the work site

What is not allowed:

- The use of cell phones will be prohibited while working. You may keep them in your car and use them during breaks. Staff will have phones available for emergency use.
- Smoking is only allowed in designated areas away from the construction site.
- Bad Attitudes - Each volunteer and supervisor is held responsible for upholding a high standard of dignity and respect. Any demonstration of rude or unacceptable behavior will followed by dismissal from the work site.
- Drugs and alcohol are not allowed on the work site. Volunteers are required to be medically (physically, emotionally, and mentally) capable of performing the required work, free from the presence of illegal drugs, alcohol, or substances that diminish or impair their ability to perform the job.

Work site Cleanliness

- Keep the worksite clean and remove any objects that could potentially be a trip hazard.
- Contact the supervisor and/or site leaders if an injury occurs on site.

Remember:

- Keep an open mind! Try everything, and remember there is always another way to do it!
- Do not begin a task if you are uncertain as to how it is done or unable to do it. If you don't feel comfortable with a job, don't do it. We can always find you another job with which you are comfortable.
- Treat others with respect and do not be bossy. Any personal conflicts (no matter how small) should be referred to construction supervision.
- Be conscious of the safety of others as well as yourself.
- When in doubt.....ASK!!!! ASK!!! AND ASK AGAIN!!!!

Thanks for helping keep our work site a safe one!

I have read all the above Safety Rules and Procedures and intend to follow them.

I feel well informed and prepared to work on Charleston Habitat For Humanity's construction site.

I will inform construction staff of any unsafe working conditions or any injuries that occur to myself or other workers.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____