



Dear Care-A-Vanner,

Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to providing decent, affordable homes for those in need. Habitat for Humanity has shown that building homes does more than put a roof over someone's head. In clean, decent, stable housing:

- Families can provide stability for their children.
- A family's sense of dignity and pride grow.
- Health, physical safety, and security improve
- Educational and job prospects increase.

Sea Island Habitat for Humanity is located on Johns Island, SC. The sea islands of South Carolina are an area in great need of decent, affordable housing. We have built over 260 homes on and around Johns Island in an effort to eliminate poverty housing. It takes over 2,000 volunteer hours to build just ONE house. Volunteers are the backbone of our ministry, and we would love your help!

We are usually working on several houses at various stages of construction at any given time. Just a few of the tasks you volunteers might work on when out at the site are:

- digging foundations and laying rebar
- framing
- roofing, shingling
- installing windows, doors, appliances, fixtures
- vinyl siding
- insulation
- sheetrock
- painting
- landscaping

Please contact me with any questions and to schedule dates. Thank you and God Bless!

Josephine Rex
Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@seaislandhabitat.org
843.768.0998 ext 109

SIHH CARE-A-VANNER PACKET

PARKING:

There are a couple options for where to park. One is in Taylor Place, a Habitat neighborhood located off of Bohicket Road on Johns Islands Island. Taylor Place is home to our volunteer and AmeriCorps housing. Water and electric are available at our houses. The nearest dumpsite for that is Oakland Plantation Campground (www.oakplantationcampground.com) at 3540 Savannah Hwy. They charge \$5.50 for dumping. The other option is staying at James Island County Park. Please check out their website (www.ccprc.com) and contact them for further information on staying there (843.795.9884).

SCHEDULE:

The construction site operates Tues-Sat from 8am-4pm (7am-3pm during the summer). Please be on time. During the week, we often host as many as 70 volunteers and up to 40 on the weekends. Being on time is crucial to keep things running smoothly. Each morning starts off with a safety talk and devotion at the worksite that your group may be asked to lead. Lunch is from 12-1 (11-12 during the summer). If you want to take a half or whole day or days off or work at the ReStore for a half or whole day, this is fine. Simply let the Volunteer Coordinator know ahead of time.

ORIENTATION:

If you would like an official orientation, please talk to the Volunteer Coordinator to schedule it. When we have work groups in town, we will have them scheduled at our office at **8am most Monday mornings**, and you are welcome to join in on that. This orientation goes over some history of Johns Island and the area, an introduction to Habitat for Humanity and SIHH, issues concerning volunteer housing, and what to expect at the worksite. Please turn in your release forms at orientation. Also at orientation, each volunteer may pick out a Sea Island Habitat for Humanity t-shirt. Additional t-shirts can be purchased. We also have hats, visors, and water bottles for sale. In addition Sea Island Habitat for Humanity has its own coffee-table book full of pictures and stories of our homeowners and volunteers. We sell them for \$10.

BUILD PLAN:

Our build plan on the work site varies depending on permitting, weather, & what has been completed before your arrival. On any given week you may be digging foundations, roofing, painting, or anything in between. During the week we may also have deconstruction projects that take place off site. If there is a deconstruction project we may need volunteers for that as well. All materials we deconstruct are donated to us through the ReStore to help build more homes. Please remember that ALL tasks you work on are important to help us complete our build plan!

MEALS:

You are responsible for food and preparation of all meals unless we have a special Build taking place. This includes lunch at the worksite. Remember to bring a sack lunch, plan to go to your campsite, or bring lunch money. Confirm with the Volunteer Coordinator how far fast food options are to your worksite if you plan to do the latter.

TRANSPORTATION:

You are responsible for your own transportation. There is no public transportation available and none of our sites are within walking distance.

RESTORE:

The ReStore sells donated goods (furniture, appliances, building materials, electronics, books, cars, boats, antiques, etc.) and the proceeds go to build about 8 Habitat homes each year. In addition, it is part of the Green Movement by keeping the items it sells out of landfills. Our ReStore is open Mon – Sat and your help would be a blessing to them!

WEATHER:

You know that old saying, “If you don’t like the weather, wait twenty minutes. It’ll change?” It’s true in Charleston. The average highs in the summer are in the low 90s, and the lows are around 70°F. During the winter months, the highs are around 60°F, and the lows are in the 40s. Be careful though. It can get much hotter than that in the summer and much cooler than that in winter. And watch out for the humidity. It’s bad.

RELEASE FORMS:

Each person in your group must sign the Release and Waiver of Liability form. Turn all forms in at orientation.

QUICK NUMBERS:

Hospitals/Clinics:

Roper Kiawah-Seabrook Medical Care (in Freshfields Village)

768.4800

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital (off Paul Cantrell Blvd, 2095 Henry Tecklenburg Drive)

402.1037 – emergency, 402.1000 – non-emergency

Post Office:

Johns Island (off Maybank Highway)

559.0622

James Island (579 Folly Road)

795.5006

Groceries:

Piggly Wiggly (at Maybank and Bohicket about 6 ½ miles from volunteer housing)

559.5542

Newton Farms (in Freshfields Village about 4 ½ miles from volunteer housing)

243.3276

OTHER PLANS:

Please talk to the Volunteer Coordinator if you are interested in seeing or doing anything in the area while you are here. We are happy to help come up with ideas or search for more information on anything you are interested in doing while you are here.

SIHH CARE-A-VANNER CHECKLIST

- Fill out front/back copies of the Release form.
- Be sure you have directions to where you will be parking and the worksite.
- Bring Release form with you to orientation or your first day at the worksite.

SIHH CARE-A-VANNER PACK LIST

(We will provide tools, water, building materials, and supervision.)

Work clothes (old clothes that you do not care about getting messed up, please keep shirts and shorts modest, layering in the winter works best, light colors are good)

Plastic bag (for dirty clothes)

Hat

Sunglasses

Safety glasses

Work gloves

Closed-toed shoes

Lucky tape measure or favorite hammer (not necessary and must be responsible for not losing them)

Pillows

Toiletries

First aid needs

Snacks

Bug repellent

Sunscreen

Bathing suit (if you plan on going to the beach)

Water bottle (for the worksite)

Money and a lot of room if you want to shop at the ReStore (All the money goes towards building homes!)

A good attitude and flexibility