

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A VOLUNTEER?

As a volunteer member of the Virginia Baptist Disaster Relief Ministry, I understand that, as my availability and ability allow, I am expected to:

1. Complete a Volunteer Information Sheet and keep current my: address and telephone number, availability status, skills, and abilities.
2. Complete the requirement training and re-certification requirement of a minimum of every three years and take optional training that will increase my usefulness as a team member.
3. Take responsibility for my spiritual and mental preparation as a Disaster Relief volunteer, as well as my work skills needed at the disaster site.
4. Represent my Lord and Savior, church, fellow Christians and team as Christ would want in my attitude, behavior, speech, dress, and work.
5. Wear official disaster recovery apparel and display the Virginia Baptist Disaster Relief's Relief logo only as prescribed and only while engaging in a Disaster Relief event.
6. Protect my health and safety as a team member and the health and safety of victims, co-workers, and all other persons while en route to or from, and while at the disaster site inform on-site nurse of any physical limitations to be considered in my work assignments.
7. Inform my team director of my availability for a disaster response.
8. Take initiative in order to improve my usefulness; increase my availability by making adjustments in my other responsibilities in order to serve as a Disaster Relief volunteer.
9. Pay my own expenses, arrange my own transportation and bring clothing, bedding, and personal items I will need at the disaster site.
10. Provide insurance and health information to appropriate persons at the disaster site.
11. Assist with unit preparation, training event, and non-emergency use of the unit, as my availability and ability allow.
12. Sign a release and indemnity document, if requested.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR DISASTER WORKERS

Each disaster is unique and each experience different in disaster response. A worker must take care to not undo the good of his work by some careless action.

- A. The workers must remember that they are representing the church and their Lord. Attitudes and actions should demonstrate the teachings of Christ.
- B. One must remember that personal words and actions will reflect on all other workers.
- C. The workers should take time to listen to victims. Never become so busy in response to physical needs that you forget the people you have come to help. In most cases, their greatest need is a friend to listen.
- D. Never attempt to meet physical or personal needs that you are not trained to handle. Always be willing to refer the victim to the adequate help he needs.
- E. Always respect the belongings and property of the victim. Remember, in cleanup and salvage what you consider of value may be different from the victim's thinking.
- F. Never accept contributions from the people you help. If they ask to make a contribution, refer them to an address where they may send it.
- G. The disaster worker has a unique opportunity of putting his faith into action. This will open doors for personal witnessing. Always be prepared to share as the opportunity arises.
- H. Always be sensitive to the fact that information shared by a victim in confidence should stay that way. They have placed confidence in you, and you should keep that confidence.
- I. When taking pictures of disaster damage, be sensitive to the people involved. If they are present, always ask permission.
- J. When sharing information about help available to victims, always be sure of your information. Do not build up hope of help that may not be available.
- K. In sharing information about a disaster situation, always be sure of facts. Never be a part of rumors that arise after a disaster.

WHAT TO TAKE CHECKLIST

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS:

- Bible and devotional
- Open Windows*
- Witnessing tracts
- Hope in Crisis*
- Spiritual Preparation for Disaster Relief*

IDENTIFICATION:

- Disaster relief ID
- Driver's license
- Vehicle registration
- Phone numbers: _____
- Family Physician _____ Employer _____
- Church _____ Pastor _____
- Notify in case of emergency name: _____ Phone: _____
- E-mail _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION: LIST COMPANY, POLICY NUMBER, COVERAGE, AGENT, AND PHONE:

- Health _____
- Auto _____
- Life _____

OTHER ITEMS:

- Cash or traveler's checks (\$50 - \$200)
- Coats and/or jackets (Warm and cool weather, waterproof)
- Notebook and pencils or pens
- Sleepwear (Because of group living arrangements, select sleepwear for modesty and comfort.)
- SBC Disaster Relief manual and/or state's disaster relief manual
- Work shoes
- Clothing (four to seven days supply):
- Sneakers
- Disaster relief caps & jackets
- Waterproof footwear
- Jeans or work pants
- Hat or cap (waterproof)
- Underwear
- Rainsuit or poncho
- Bandannas and handkerchiefs
- Suitcase or duffel bag
- Disaster relief ID cards & clip-on
- Laundry bag
- Shirts (both for warm and cool weather)
- Socks, two pairs a day (white, wool or wool blend)
- Work gloves

Health, Safety and Hygiene:

- Prescription medicine: List by name all your prescription medication
- New prescription orders (if your physician approves and will write new prescriptions)
- Nonprescription drugs
- Bar soap
- Deodorant
- Towels
- Tooth brush
- Shampoo
- Lip balm
- Diarrhea cure
- Insect spray
- Medicated ointment
- Allergy kit: bees, etc.
- Liquid antibacterial soap
- Feminine needs
- Wash cloths
- Toothpaste
- Comb and brush
- Shaving cream
- Antacids
- Skin lotion
- Anti-fungal ointment/spray

- Sun block (15+)
- Laundry detergent
- Personal needs
- Mouth wash
- Dental floss
- Hair spray
- Razor
- Laxative
- Blister kit
- Foot powder

Food:

- Diet food
- Snacks
- Drinking water

Supplies and Equipment:

- Flashlight or lantern
- Watch or clock
- Canteen or water bottle (drinking)
- Bedding (air or foam mattress, cot, covers)
- Tent (optional, inquire first)
- Plus any special personal items you need for health, safety or comfort: