



Purdue Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge 2012

What is Collegiate Challenge?

Collegiate Challenge is an exciting program that allows thousands of college students to use their Spring Breaks to travel to exciting destinations across the country to build homes with Habitat for Humanity. Participation in Collegiate Challenge enables students to put their faith in action, to build partnerships with people sharing a common goal, to gain greater awareness of the need for decent and affordable housing, and to deepen their commitment to social action. Through hands-on construction, students work toward eliminating poverty housing from the world.

From the beaches of Florida to the founding city of Habitat for Humanity, every site provides a unique experience of local culture and quality, hands-on construction. During Collegiate Challenge, construction on a work site may range from framing and roofing new houses to doing landscaping and renovations on older homes. On-site construction supervision is provided and building experience is **NOT** necessary.

*"Habitat for Humanity is building much more than houses. By building hope it is building relationships, strengthening communities, and nurturing families."
-Paul Newman*

Students are often amazed by the closeness of a group at the end of the trip. After a week of learning new skills and working hard alongside other students, you'll find closeness between yourself and the other participants that can only be forged in the process of working together to help others.

"There is no way I could have ever bought with money any of the things that I have learned or felt by working on this house."

-Nancy Boyd, Volunteer

Where We're Going

We at the Purdue University chapter of Habitat are extremely excited about the Collegiate Challenge opportunities for us this year. We're planning on sending 50 students combined, between Habitat general members and partner organization members, to five different sites we have chosen. 3 sites will be available to our Habitat general members (8 people per site for a total of 24 spots). These sites were chosen through a combination of past experience, location, and information we have about the sites. They are places, which we feel, are the best options offered by Habitat International this year, and everyone should have an excellent experience.



Collegiate Challenge 2012 Locations:

Newport, North Carolina (Crystal Coast Habitat for Humanity)

Approximate driving time: 14-15 hours

The Crystal Coast Habitat for Humanity has been building homes in Carteret County for twenty-three years and this will be our 16th year to host college students. Last year we extended our service area to include Onslow County and currently have a home going up in each county. The crystal coast offers a wide range of water sport activities; weather permitting, an aquarium, an old civil war fort and lots of seafood to enjoy while visiting.

Mount Pleasant, South Carolina (East Cooper Habitat for Humanity)

Approximate driving time: 13-14 hours

Mt. Pleasant is a beautiful sunny beach area located near downtown Charleston. Though there is a lot of wealth in the area, there is also substantial poverty and families in need of housing. There is plenty to do here, from city life to beach bumming and there is a lot of work for anyone willing to come build a home for a family!

New Smyrna Beach, Florida (Southeast Volusia Habitat for Humanity)

Approximate driving time: 17-18 hours

New Smyrna Beach is a beautiful beach-side city - surrounded by water; the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian River Intracoastal Waterway and the Mosquito Lagoon. With legendary white sand beaches and a vibrant river, outdoor recreation is a mainstay for residents and tourists alike. We are situated about 15 minutes south of Daytona Beach and approximately one hour drive from Orlando attractions. We have a vibrant Habitat that builds 8+ new homes each year. We are thrilled to have college spring break students with us each year and they have reported a great experience.

How Collegiate Challenge Works

Participation in Collegiate Challenge is awarded on a first come, first served basis according to the order in which applications are received. A wait list will be available for anyone who submits an application after all the slots are filled. Groups of 8 volunteers will be assigned to each site based on a combination of participant preferences and logistical considerations.

The trips will take most of the full nine days that we have off for break, allowing for driving time and five days at the site. This year transportation will be done through the use of two of your own personal vehicles per trip/group. This will enable participants to do a number of different things rather than just being confined to what the entire group would want to do. This also is the cheapest alternative and is the best way to defray costs for the participants. All



the travel costs will be paid for through trip fees. The owners of the cars are required to keep all gas receipts to receive reimbursement after the trip.

At the site, housing will be provided by the affiliate that you are working with, which will generally be either a church, volunteer center, or a house. Accommodations will include access to showers and possibly a kitchen. Work will generally take up six to eight hours of four or five of the days you are at the site. The evenings, and possibly an extra day, are free to see the sites of the area and have fun with your group.

Expenses

The cost of each trip will be \$190 per participant. (If you volunteer to provide the use of your car for transportation of your group, we will give you a \$60 reduction in the trip cost to cover general wear and tear of the vehicle. In addition, all gas expenses will be reimbursed by Purdue Habitat after the trip, but you must keep all gas receipts for the entire trip to receive reimbursement.) These fees cover transportation, lodging, and payments to Habitat International and your site's Habitat affiliate. However, you should be prepared to budget in money for food, as most affiliates provide only a few meals or no meals at all, as well as for any additional optional expenses, such as visiting local attractions or eating out at restaurants.

The fee for the trip will be paid in two installments. The 1st deposit will be \$90, to be paid when you submit your application for Collegiate Challenge. **This deposit is non-refundable after Jan. 23, 2012**, so if any conflicts arise, please contact us before this date so that a solution can be worked out. The 2nd deposit will be the remainder of your trip cost (\$100 for regular participants; \$40 for drivers), which will be paid in late January or early February.

We at Purdue Habitat for Humanity feel that the price of a Collegiate Challenge trip is a better bargain than any other Spring Break opportunity. However, if the expenses are a legitimate issue for you, please talk to us. We do not want financial reasons to prevent anyone from considering a trip. We will look at it as a case-by-case basis and may be able to work something out if you truly desire to go on a Collegiate Challenge trip.

Rules and Policies

1. Participation in a Habitat for Humanity Spring Break trip is open to anyone who would like to dedicate their Spring Break to helping build houses for those in need, while having a great time doing it. However, we do require that you are an active member of Purdue Habitat for Humanity, meaning that 1.) you have turned in a membership form and paid the \$20/year dues, and 2.) you have participated with our chapter's activities in some way. If you have not done this but would like to go on one of our trips, the easiest thing to do is to turn in the membership form and dues and sign up for one of our builds on any



Saturday before Spring Break. The reason for this requirement is so that you are aware of the means by which Habitat for Humanity operates and pursues its mission.

2. If you would like to participate in Collegiate Challenge, you must fill out the online application by **Mon., Jan. 23, 2012**. In addition, we must receive a 1st deposit of \$90 in our mailbox within 2 weeks of your application submission, or else your application will be discarded. (See “Application and Payment Submission Process” below for instructions.)
3. As a participant of Collegiate Challenge, you will be asked to attend two meetings in either late January or early February. The first meeting is a logistical meeting in which we will collect important paperwork and go over miscellaneous details of the trip. The second meeting is a social meeting in which you will get a chance to get to know the other members of your group. The times and locations of these meetings will be announced at a later date.
4. The purpose of these trips is to help others, and while you’ll have more fun on these trips than any other type, drinking alcohol **IS NOT** a part of these trips in any way.

Application and Payment Submission Process

Go to www.purdue.edu/habitat and click on the Collegiate Challenge Application link under the Collegiate Challenge heading on the right-hand panel. The application will be made available starting on **Mon., Nov. 28, 2011**. The application consists of 3 sections:

Section I: General Information

This section will provide us with the basic information needed to register you for a Collegiate Challenge trip.

Section II: Preferences

- A) This section will help to determine where you will go. If you do have some idea of where you may want to go, you may select which site is your 1st choice and which is your last. In general, preferences will be honored according to the order in which applications are received. However, we cannot guarantee that all preferences will be fulfilled, as other considerations must be taken into account as well. All the sites will be fun, so be open to any location! If you have absolutely no preference, simply select “No preference.”
- B) If you know that you would like to travel on a Collegiate Challenge trip with friends, feel free to submit their names here. At times, however, signing up as a group may restrict the site placement if certain sites are close to full.
- C) Please select Yes or No to let us know whether or not you would like to provide your car for transportation. This means that you will be one of the primary drivers for your



group, but you may allow other group members to operate your vehicle if you wish. The first 6 people who turn in applications with “Yes” will get the \$60 price reduction, which will be taken into effect on the 2nd trip deposit.

Section III: Involvement and Interests

This section will give us background information on your involvement with Habitat. Responses do not need to be any longer than 1-3 sentences.

Payment

Please submit your 1st deposit of \$90 in an envelope. Checks are preferred and can be made payable to Purdue University Habitat for Humanity; however, cash is acceptable as well.

Make sure this information is written on the envelope:

- First and last name
- “1st deposit”
- “Cash” or “Check #xxxx,” depending on method of payment

Either turn in the payment to our Habitat office in Stewart Center Rm. G22b during the office hours posted on the Purdue Habitat website (recommended if paying with cash), or mail to:

Collegiate Challenge
Purdue University Habitat for Humanity
Stewart Center, Box #706
128 Memorial Mall
West Lafayette, IN 47906

(No postage necessary if sent through campus mail!)

You will receive an email confirmation when we have received your deposit, thus indicating that you have successfully reserved a spot on a Collegiate Challenge trip.

Next Steps

You will be notified of your trip location and group members in late January or early February. At this time, you will also receive further information regarding the pre-departure meetings, payment of the 2nd deposit, and required paperwork.

We are truly excited that you are interested in participating in Collegiate Challenge. If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail Evelyn Chang at chang41@purdue.edu. Thanks!