

It is the protocol of Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County to provide as safe a workplace as possible, realizing that a construction site has many inherent safety hazards. This protocol will be covered at the beginning of each workday. If you are not comfortable or if you are inexperienced with an assigned task on the worksite, please inform the Project Manager that you want further training or to be assigned another task. **Because everyone's safety is our first priority, the Project Manager has the authority to ask you to leave the site if you cannot adhere to the safety protocol.**

**Footwear:** Substantial hard-soled shoes should be worn on the site. Sneakers do not provide protection against a nail puncture wound.

**Safety Glasses:** Eye protection is required at all times.

**Hard Hats:** Hard hats are required when any overhead work is going on and when there is a hazard of falling tools or material.

**Gloves:** Gloves are recommended whenever the risk of hand injury is present, including – but not limited to – handling sharp or rough materials, shoveling or raking, or handling soils. Gloves should be removed when using any rotation tools (saws or any other tool that could catch the glove and cause injury).

**Dust Masks:** Dust masks are recommended when doing demolition, insulation, sanding, using saws or any other time when breathing irritants may be present.

**Ear Plugs:** Ear protection is recommended for work when in “noisy” area – i.e. any area where voices must be raised to be heard over background noises.

**Scaffolding:** Any scaffolding two or more sections high must have complete guardrails and be fastened securely to the building. No scaffolding will be used until inspected and approved by the Project Manager.

**Ladders:** Ladders should only be used for their intended design on solid footing. No ladders will be used until inspected and approved by the Project Manager.

**Lifting & Carrying:** Large items, such as sheetrock or long pieces of material, must be carried by more than one person.

**Power Tools:** Power tools are to be used only by persons 18 years of age with direct approval from the onsite Project Manager.

**Age Restrictions:** No one under the age of 16 is allowed on an active build site for any reason.

**Cell Phones:** Always step off the worksite for telephone calls, texts, or emails. This type of distraction is a major cause of accidents.

**Tripping Hazards:** It is the responsibility of everyone on site to help identify and remedy any safety issues, including – but not limited to – tripping hazards.

**Smoking/Vaping:** Smoking or vaping is not permitted on any Habitat work site.

**Instruction:** Project Managers are working under the instruction of the Director of Construction. Everyone on site is to follow the directions of the Project Manager on site to maintain clear lines of communication and consistency.

**Parking:** To ensure access in and out of the work site and sufficient space to maneuver materials, trucks, and trailers, volunteers are not to park on or in front of the site unless granted permission from the Project Manager on site. Carpooling is highly encouraged, due to limited parking space on the street.