

SALKEHATCHIE SUMMER SERVICE

Revised: 4/12/17

This information is for each volunteer! Everyone who plans to participate in the Salkehatchie Summer Service should read the following information carefully.

With all sensitivity, we ask each applicant to consider our philosophy to see that he/she can relate to us and to the ministry in a positive and creative manner.

We come to serve the people of South Carolina in the Christian sense of the word. When we commit ourselves to service, we are making a covenant with God to put our own needs and desires aside. We do this by sharing our talents, love, and concern with our sisters and brothers in Christ. We do not work on empty buildings, but rather on homes where real people live. People who are created by God, that need love, a sense of ownership, an avenue for creativity, and a desire to belong. At the same time, it is not our purpose to change life styles or rearrange value systems and customs for local people. Our purpose is to extend a helping hand in the spirit of love and acceptance. We may encounter a family who seemingly does not appreciate the work we have done, but we are not there to be appreciated. We are there to **give — totally — unselfishly**.

What is Salkehatchie Summer Service?

Salkehatchie Summer Service is a servant ministry throughout locations in South Carolina where youth and adults come together to serve the community. These volunteers who come from different walks of life come together to help those who are in need. By helping people help themselves provides all participants the opportunities to grow in their walk with Christ. Salkehatchie Summer Service is a Limited Liability Company under the program of the South Carolina Conference Board of Global Ministries and is overseen by a Board of Managers.

Who is Salkehatchie?

The Salkehatchie Summer Service is you--a community of people who come together for a week of serving throughout locations in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia. This community will consist of high school youth (**ages 14 and up**), college age students, adult counselors and volunteers. We expect each person in the ministry to be willing to participate fully in the program. The ministry is not an 8am to 5pm job. It is an entire experience. The whole week we will serve, grow, learn, and share together.

What do we do?

Specific jobs you might be asked to undertake are repairing a leaky roof, putting up sheetrock, painting (inside and outside), replacing broken windows and doors, rebuilding porches, rebuilding bathrooms, digging, and stabilizing floors and walls. The work will vary slightly at each site, depending on climate and need. These services are offered at no charge to the families.

Each camp runs from Saturday to Saturday. The weekend is busy with getting acquainted with one another and oriented to the purpose of our camp. On Sunday morning we will wear our Salkehatchie shirts (provided at the camp) to worship at churches (no shorts, please).

Monday through Friday the work at the sites will take place in the mornings and afternoons. Evening time is set aside for worship, fellowship, singing, sharing and listening to some local history. The time spent in reflection each night is important to the Salkehatchie experience.

What are our responsibilities?

You are responsible for returning the Medical Release/Lability Forms to the **Camp Director** by **May 25th**. (**Do not mail them to conference office.**) You are reminded that each volunteer is responsible for his/her own coverage of medical insurance. Please remember to advise the Director(s) of any

unusual medical problems and/or the use of any prescription drugs when you register at camp. You must have a completed medical form to participate in the camp and your tetanus shot must be current (*within the last 10 years*). Should you need medical attention while at camp, you will be responsible for the cost and your parent(s) or guardian(s) will be contacted.

Each group or individual provides their own transportation to and from the camp. We recommend vans (no 15 passenger), trucks, SUV's, or small church buses that may be used during the week for transportation to the work sites. Please notify the Camp Director if your vehicle will be used during the week. All vehicles must be driven by licensed adults (25 years of age or older).

Camp Directors will establish rules for each camp to guide the communal life and promote proper behavior. In all camps the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. are set aside for sleep. No volunteer (youth or adult) may leave the camp grounds or the work site without permission of the Camp Director(s) or the site leader respectively. You are reminded that you are responsible for your behavior and for your personal belongings. Each volunteer is expected to abide by the rules of the camp and to participate in all camp activities.

What to bring?

Air mattress or cot
Linens, pillow, blanket or sleeping bag
work clothes — for five work days
work shoes — hard soled tennis shoes
casual clothes (after work)
under clothes and socks, enough for a week
light jacket
Swimsuit
Shower shoes (flip flops)
towels, wash cloths, soap, shampoo and other
personal toiletry items
toothbrush and toothpaste

shower basket/bucket
Bible
Band-Aids, insect repellent, sunscreen

Work stuff: *Required*

Work gloves, protective goggles, hammer,
paint brush, tape measure

Optional:

Devotional materials and musical
instruments
electric fan and extension cord(s)
sunglasses and flashlights are optional

When packing your suitcase be thinking about a week of dirt, sweat, paint and tar. Don't pack your favorite shirt or best blue jeans for the work. Halter tops and short shorts are inappropriate dress. Leave expensive clothing and jewelry at home. We will be serving the poor, so simple dress is appropriate. Jeans and tennis shoes with the Salkehatchie T-shirt you will receive at camp will be fine for Sunday worship. Also, be sure to consider the fact that the camp does not have laundry facilities. So, plan a wardrobe that will get you through an entire week including clothes to work and fellowship in.

For Your Information

Our ministry operates on a very limited budget. The registration fee is used to pay for room and board, and construction materials used to repair the homes. Registration fees alone do not cover all our costs. Salkehatchie Summer Service also depends on donations from individuals, classes, and churches. Participants are encouraged to seek contributions to support our mission.

Each participating group or individual is requested to involve their local church in the missional venture NOW. It is our hope that your local church will support you prayerfully, spiritually and financially in your missional venture. You are the missionary of your local church. Their involvement is IMPORTANT!

Material donations such as lumber, paint, caulking, plywood, linoleum, paneling, nails, etc., may be brought directly to camp and reported as a donation. However, all pre-camp purchases to be drawn from the camp budget must be approved by the Camp Director(s).

In Conclusion

We do not mean to give the impression that the ministry is all discipline and hard work! These are included, but the ministry is exciting, creative, and something to be remembered as deeply meaningful and richly rewarding experience.

The spirit is the important thing. To have a wholesome, creative and loving relationship with other people is a tremendous significance in the overall success of the ministry.

One can have the pleasure of knowing that there is not made-work! Whatever one is asked to do — is something which needs doing!

Sending Forth

Ask your pastor to use *The Dedication of Salkehatchie Workers* service on the Sunday before you come to Salkehatchie. This service can be found under "forms" on the website:

www.Salkehatchie.org

You will receive further information either my text or email. If you need assistance registering for camp or more information please contact us by email us at salkehatchie@umcsc.org or by phone at 803-691-6606.