

Restoring Hope. Revitalizing Communities. REBUILDING TOGETHER.

WHO

Rebuilding Together Aurora is a safe and healthy housing organization with a strong volunteer engagement platform. RTA's mission is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the homes of low-income homeowners so that they may live in warmth, safety, and independence.

HOW

Homeowners living on, near or below the poverty line are oftentimes unable to attend to the needs of an older home, as they must choose to address other basic living needs. In a 2010 report, greater than 30% of homeowners in Aurora were living in substandard conditions and/or struggling with chronic housing issues. For those that are low-income, costly home repairs are essential to the family's health and living but are rarely financially feasible.

WHY

Volunteers from the community work with RTA to provide repairs for homeowners in Aurora. Our strong volunteer engagement platform has an enormous return on investment: every dollar given to our projects results in \$4-8 worth of repairs. By utilizing skilled tradespersons and "handymen" and general labor volunteers for the repair work, we are able to not only significantly cut costs but to bring together neighbors to help neighbors.

WHAT TO EXPECT

PRE- EVENT DAY

- If your organization is interested in volunteering with Rebuilding Together Aurora please see <https://rebuilding-together-qng3.squarespace.com/group-interest-form> and fill out the group interest form and submit to RTA 2-3 months prior to the desired project day.
- After submission of the group interest form RTA will contact the lead for your team to review the information and secure a project date for your team or secure your participation in an existing RTA build event.
- Once RTA has secured a project for your team the lead for your team will be sent the entirety of the project information (homeowner bio, the work to be done, and directions to the site).
- RTA at this time will establish a special on-line sign up through the RTA website that can be used to secure your volunteers.

EVENT DAY

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- The RTA representative for your team will be on site to welcome your team and run through who RTA is, what is the work scope for the day, and will introduce the homeowner to the team! If you are participating in the April Rebuilding Event then a rally will be held in the morning with all participating groups before heading to the work sites.
 - Everyone from your team will need to sign a volunteer waiver that will be provided on site during the introductions. If the volunteer team consists of members under the age of 18 please work with your RTA representative ahead of time to ensure that all participating members under 18 have a special waiver signed by their parent.
 - Water is always provided by RTA on every project site. It is the volunteer's group responsibility to provide any breakfast or lunches. It is important to note that food needs can be provided by RTA if there has been specified funds given to RTA to do so. If you are participating in an existing build event sponsored by RTA, like the April Rebuilding Event, then lunches will be provided for your groups.
 - Upon arrival every volunteer will be given a Rebuilding Together Aurora T-shirt.

POST- EVENT

T-shirts must be worn by all volunteers who plan to participate in the work that day.

- Clean up on the project site always starts an hour before the end of the work day.
- A group photo will be taken after clean up.
- A thank you for your team's devotion and hard work to serving homeowners in need. RTA will post project pictures to our Facebook or Instagram a week or two after the event day. Make sure to keep a look out at our monthly newsletter for a special highlight on your team's project.

PROJECT LOGISTICS

- Rebuilding Together Aurora provides each participating group with their own House Captain. House Captains are to be considered the "project manager" for the work to be done on the project. The house captain will assure that all materials needed and all prep work is completed by the project date for your team. If your organization would like to provide their own house captain just inform RTA and the appropriate accommodations will be made.
- RTA staff and house captain will work together to ensure all tools needed will be on site. If more tools are needed RTA will ask the lead contact for your team to assist by bringing their own.

SHOULD MY TEAM BRING SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS?

- RTA will ensure all required safety equipment is on site. Feel free to bring your own gloves and safety goggles if you prefer. First aid kits are also provided at all work sites.
- **RTA WILL PROVIDE AS MANY TOOLS AS WE CAN BUT OFTEN WILL SEEK THE HELP OF THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR TO DIRECT PEOPLE TO BRING THEIR OWN TOOLS.**

WHAT SHOULD MY TEAM WEAR?

The standard dress code for RTA project sites is long pants and covered toe shoes. Your RTA representative will inform you of any conditions that will require a special dress code.

WHERE SHOULD I PARK?

Carpooling is always best in bigger groups but RTA makes sure street parking is allowed for all projects. Upon arrival to the project site find the nearest available street parking and walk on up to the home!

EVENT REGULATIONS

- All volunteers must wear event t-shirt provided at check in on event days
- Smoking is NOT allowed on homeowner properties. Please take any smoke break needed at the nearest corner to the assigned work site
- No Alcohol or drugs are allowed on any project site
- Do NOT perform any modification to work scope without homeowner and house captain approval
- No volunteer can begin work unless checked in and volunteer waiver signed
- All major injuries must be reported to event staff