

YouthWorks Clothing Policy

For Students & Adults

YouthWorks loves the community where you are serving this summer! Because of this, we ask that you recognize that your words, actions and appearance during your week contribute to the way we present ourselves to a community. Choosing modest clothing helps to avoid distractions in our representation of Christ. We ask that you choose apparel consistent with the following guidelines. We appreciate your help in creating a safe, respectful, distraction-free environment for your mission experience.

Please Bring

Loose-Fitting Clothing

During the week your clothes may endure paint, sweat, mud and lots of love from children! Bring clothes that you can work and play hard in.

Closed-Foot Shoes

To prevent injury, you need to bring a pair of shoes that completely cover your foot. Bring shoes that you don't mind getting dirty or wet at work sites and that you can wear in the kitchen. No plastic shoes (e.g. crocs).

One-Piece Swimsuits

Although we won't swim at every YouthWorks site, swimsuits are a good idea for additional privacy in the showers (not all of our communities offer private showers. If a swimsuit is not needed for an activity, it is OK to wear a two-piece swimsuit for showering.) Please choose modest swimsuits for swimming activities. If you do not bring a one-piece for swimming, you'll be asked to wear a t-shirt over it.

Mid-Thigh or Longer Shorts (or pants)

You will bend, twist, sit, climb and crawl as you love and serve communities. Short shorts will only get shorter with these activities. A good measure is to let your arms fall to your side – if your fingers touch skin, bring a longer pair of shorts. We recommend that you bring Capri pants.

Please Don't Bring

Apparel that Distracts

Including . . .

- Tank tops or sleeveless shirts
- Short shorts
- Clothing that reveals undergarments
- Clothing that reveals midriffs or chests

Apparel that . . .

- Includes obscene, vulgar, abusive or discriminatory language or images
- Advertises or promotes alcohol, chemical, tobacco or any other product illegal for use by minors
- Represents hate groups, is gang-related, or contains threatening language

Why Not?

We represent Christ in the communities that we serve. These "prohibited" clothing items often work against, not for, our efforts to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. This distracting apparel can be disrespectful and damaging to our long-term relationship building within a community.

We don't want to be the "clothing police" and we know that you don't want us to be either. We ask for you to understand this clothing policy and follow it.

YouthWorks staff will ask the adult leaders to enforce the policy by asking you to change your clothing if it is believed to be a distraction.

Packing List

Carefully read the clothing policy and pack accordingly.

- Reusable water bottle (extremely important!)- YouthWorks does provide drinking water.
- Sun block, lip balm, hat (to protect you from the sun), sunglasses
- Long pants (for cool nights and/or work projects)*
- Long sleeved shirts and sweatshirts (for cool nights and/or work projects)*
- Short sleeved shirts (no sleeveless shirts or tank tops)
- Appropriate length shorts
- Nice, clean clothes for a possible worship service*
- Light jacket (for cool nights)*
- Tennis shoes (must be closed-foot)
- Underwear and socks
- Bath towel, wash cloth, and one-piece swimsuit for showering and possible evening activities (We ask that you bring swimsuits for showering because not all of our communities offer private showers. If a swimsuit is not needed for an activity, it is OK to wear a two-piece swimsuit for showering.)*
- Shower shoes
- Small shower bag or backpack
- Soap, shampoo, deodorant, other toiletries (extra contact lenses, backup pair of glasses)
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Air mattress or foam camping pad (we will sleep on floors)
 - *Must be twin size or smaller*
- Bible and pen
- Spending money for snacks and t-shirt purchases (talk to your Trip Leader for further details)
- Insect repellent (not every person needs to bring – coordinate with others in your group)*
- Flashlight
- Battery powered alarm clock (not every person needs to bring – coordinate with others in your group)
- Reusable lunch bags/boxes for lunches (YouthWorks does provide brown paper lunch bags, but bringing your own can save on waste)

**The Site Director will connect with your Trip Leader to talk through specific packing list items.*

Notes on Packing

Because space is limited in the sleeping rooms, everything but the sleeping bag and camping pad or air mattress must fit in one duffel bag or suitcase.

Please check the local weather forecast for your site to make sure that you pack accordingly.

DO NOT BRING:

- Blow dryers, curling or straightening irons because the shower time is short and because many of our housing sites do not have the power to run all of these small electronics at one time.
- iPods, electronic games, portable CD players, other valuables, or too much cash. These items can distract you from others during the week and may be susceptible to theft.
- *YouthWorks is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.*