

Westwood Student Ministries

IMPACT Virginia! Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Impact Virginia?

Impact Virginia is a coed youth missions opportunity involving teenagers in “hands on” ministry projects in Virginia. Baptist youth from across the state join forces to make an impact on local communities through a variety of ministry projects focusing primarily on home repair and reconstruction needs of low-income, elderly, or special needs families. Each Impact Virginia session involves from 150 to 300 youth assigned to work teams of 8-15 persons. Participants work all day on their sites under the supervision of qualified construction coordinators and other adult leaders. Impact Virginia! works with local housing and social service agencies and Baptist Associations to designate priority housing needs. Work includes painting, roofing, cleaning, interior/exterior renovation, and general carpentry.

2. Where are we going this year?

We're off to the southern tip of Virginia's Eastern Shore near Eastville, VA. Travel distance is about 230 miles...it will take about 4 1/2 hours of driving to make the trip (not including lunch and other “necessary” stops).

3. What are the dates?

Sunday, 21 July – Saturday, 27 July.

4. How much does Impact cost?

\$ 285.00	Total Cost
\$ 125.00	To Be Paid From Youth Missions Fund Raising
\$160.00	To Be Paid By Each Youth Participant

Please make checks payable to Westwood Baptist Church

For information...

- There is a financial cap established for families with more than two participating students
- If cost is an issue, financial assistance may be available.

For further information on either of these topics, contact Jessie Kearns or Tom Kern

(Note to parents: Funds paid for Impact Virginia! participation are considered tax deductible as a charitable contribution. For Westwood members, funds paid will show up on regular giving statements. For non-members, receipts can be provided.)

5. Is there any preparation?

Yup...We have several planning meetings scheduled. One planning session for all adult travelers (including graduating seniors and available Collegiate Envoys).

22 June – (Final Time TBD)

And three **mandatory** training sessions for all youth planning to travel with us to Impact! Training sessions provide general orientation and cover required bible studies provided by Impact Virginia. Bible studies serve as the theme throughout the Impact week.

23 June – Sunday – (4:30PM – 5:45PM) Mandatory Training Session #1

30 June – Sunday – (4:30PM – 5:45PM) Mandatory Training Session #2

07 July – Sunday – (4:30PM – 5:45PM) Mandatory Training Session #3

Important: - Impact training sessions are mandatory for all student participants.

- **More than one unexcused absence will result in the student's name being removed from the traveling list and a refund (minus Impact non-refundable deposit) provided.**

- Excused absences must be arranged with Tom ahead of time.

6. What about permission slips and stuff?

We'll need them. A package of required forms will be emailed to each confirmed Impact-er. Forms are also available for download from the Impact page of the Westwood Youth Ministries web site at www.westwood-baptist.org. Hard copies will be available. Get them back to me as soon as possible...cannot travel without a completed package. Final forms and registration fees are due no later than Tuesday, 30 April.

7. What is the typical schedule for the week?

The schedule follows a basic outline...but is subject to change at a moment's notice. Flexibility is a word we hear often.

Sunday

- 2:00 – Arrive Eastern Shore. Move in.
- 6:00 – Dinner
- 7:00 – Orientation / Initial Work Group Meetings / Worship
- 8:30 – Church Group Devotions
- 11:00 – Lights Out

Monday / Tuesday / Thursday / Friday

- 6:00 – Rise and eat
- 7:00 – Morning Celebration
- 7:30 – Leave for job site
- 12:00 – Lunch at job site
- 4:00 – Return from job site
- 6:00 – Dinner
- 7:00 – Worship
- 8:30 – Church Group Devotions
- 11:00 – Lights Out

Wednesday

Morning schedule remains the same through lunch. After lunch the crews return to camp and have the remainder of the day free. We'll plan some type of outing or event for this time

Saturday

- 7:30 – Sleep late!!! Eat breakfast and pack
- 9:00 – Closing celebration
- 10:00 – Leave for home

8. What will our lodging be like?

Lodging will be in Northampton High School classrooms. Guys will be in one hallway, girls in another. School should be air conditioned but we've run into some problems in the past. You may want to consider bringing a fan.

9. What will the meals be like?

Breakfast and dinner will be prepared by either Northampton High School cafeteria staff or Virginia Baptist Disaster Relief food service teams. Lunches will be prepared by local churches and delivered to the job site.

10. How will my group be divided during the week?

The IV staff will assign each person to a work crew of 8-10 students. At least two students from Westwood will be together on a crew. The staff makes every effort to avoid placing siblings or parents in the same crew. Each crew will be assigned to a job site with appropriate adult leadership at each location.

11. What are the work projects like?

Work projects are home repair / reconstruction. Projects include painting, landscaping, general carpentry, reconstruction, repair and roofing. Each work crew consists of 8-10 students with adult supervision as well as a qualified construction crew chief on each site. For information...rising high school freshmen or above can go up on roofs. Only caveat is that anyone on the roof under age 18 MUST WEAR LONG PANTS. (Apparently we don't care what folks over 18 are wearing (??).

13. Emergency Contacts?

We'll have a final contact list available in the week before we depart. Copies will be sent electronically and hard copies will be available at our departure gathering.