

## Volunteer Safety Guidelines (please review with all work crews)

- **Risk and insurance:** Volunteers serve at their own risk. Primary insurance coverage is the volunteer's own health insurance.
- **Homeowner consent:** Volunteer work is to be conducted with the consent of the homeowner.
- **Age:** Youth under 16 are discouraged from participating in work crews. Youth between 16 and 18 should only participate with parental accompaniment or written permission.
- **Clothing:** Wear boots, long pants and work gloves.
- **Face protection:** For insulation or sheetrock removal, wear dust masks and goggles.
- **Chain saws:** Chain saws should be used *only by experienced adult operators. Face shields and ear protection should be worn.*
- **Electricity:** Before working in homes with wet or damp floors, or when removing sheet rock, be sure the electricity has been turned off.
- **Mold:** When working with mold, wear a dust mask and gloves. Spray moldy surfaces with a solution consisting of one cup of bleach per one gallon of water. After working with mold, wash hands with soap or hand sanitizer.
- **Asbestos:** **In some older homes, asbestos may be contained in tiles or insulation. In insulation, it may resemble shiny, lightweight gravel, brown or gold in color. If you think you may have encountered asbestos, leave the home and notify the homeowner.**
- **Generators:** Do not use generators inside homes. Generators should only be run outdoors or in well-ventilated areas.
- **Sharp objects:** Beware of nails, broken glass or other sharp objects. Tetanus and other needed immunizations should be current. Treat wounds with soap, clean water, and, if available, antibiotic ointment.
- **Lifting:** Always lift with your legs, with knees bent, to minimize back strain. Volunteers with pre-existing health conditions should only perform tasks that are within their limitations.