



Expectations and Policies

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General Expectations

- ✓ The Big Creek Missions staff has been selected to provide a positive experience for your group. Regardless of position or age, staff has overall responsibility for all activities. Staff will work with adult leaders to provide clear directions and to set an example of humble, servant leadership. Participants are asked to follow respectfully.
- ✓ Adult leaders are responsible for the safety and conduct of their group and are expected to enforce these expectations as their own.
- ✓ All participants are asked to exhibit an attitude of humility, flexibility, kindness, and patience. In addition, all participants are to use language that is positive and encouraging, and is useful for building others up.
- ✓ Practical jokes, deception, intimidation, crude or coarse joking will not be tolerated.
- ✓ Please act responsibly the entire time you serve at Big Creek Missions. Being in a small town, others are watching your actions and are basing their opinions of this mission on your actions.
- ✓ Practice the "hands-off" policy. If it does not belong to you, please keep your hands off. This includes luggage, supplies, tools, equipment, and anything not yours.
- ✓ Participants are to refrain from "PDA's" (public displays of affection), are to keep their hands to themselves, and avoid inappropriate hugging and other inappropriate actions.
- ✓ Use of Alcohol, tobacco of any type, illegal drugs, fireworks and similar materials are prohibited.

At the mission center

- ✓ All participants are to abide by curfew, and are to be quiet after to respect others in the facility.
- ✓ The center is also the staff's home. Do not enter areas labeled for "Staff" and respect their need for privacy during break times and quiet times.
- ✓ All participants will be asked to assist with various duties during the week. Some will assist with food preparation and cleanup, sweeping, mopping, cleaning restrooms, sorting lumber, organizing, and preparing for different ministries.
- ✓ Bags shall remain neatly packed while in rooms, dirty clothing kept in plastic bag, and garbage

placed in containers. To abide by health and fire regulations, floors and exits must remain clear and rooms must remain clean.

- ✓ We recommend that students leave phones at home. Group leaders may determine whether phones are allowed for their students. No texting or calls allowed inside the center or ministry sites.
- ✓ Students are not to leave the center grounds under ANY circumstances without the prior permission of their group leader AND unless they are accompanied by one of their chaperones.
- ✓ No one shall be in rooms of opposite sex.

At your ministry site

- ✓ During the summer months, be prepared to work with volunteers from other churches! We will divide church groups into ministry teams. We will have Big Creek staff on each team for safety and accountability reasons.
- ✓ Be respectful of the ministry site. Be sensitive to the needs and condition of the area. Refrain from making comments about the area, the condition of their home, and poor living conditions, as this IS their home and town. Speak in a positive manner at all times, refrain from inside jokes, cut downs, and language that would be questionable to the residents.
- ✓ Form relationships with the residents. Pack extra lunches before leaving to site for homeowners and neighbors. Use discretion when residents desire to offer lunch or dinner: Residents are extremely kind and may overexert themselves financially by giving to a large group of volunteers.

In Worship Services

- ✓ ALL adults and students are required to attend all worship services when planned. Errands (whether ministry related or not) and issues can wait until the worship service is completed. Center director must approve exceptions, if any.
- ✓ Flash photography is not allowed in worship.
- ✓ Plan to use the restroom prior to worship! For security and accountability reasons, no student or adult is to leave worship unless an adult from their church of the same sex leaves with them.



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Transportation (drivers & adults only)

- ✓ **Vehicle Safety:** Groups are expected to inspect and verify that all vehicles are safe to operate, have been maintained properly, all lights and seat belts are working properly (if equipped with seat belts), and tires are in good condition, and inflated to a proper level. All groups should verify insurance coverage prior to departure.
- ✓ **NO participants** are to ride in the back of any pickup truck at any time during their stay. Each vehicle should have seat belts for the appropriate number of riders.
- ✓ **Vehicle Drivers:** It is strongly advised to have several approved and trained drivers for each vehicle! This enables us to place drivers in their desired ministry tracks!
- ✓ **Vehicles suggested size:** Between 5 and 15 passengers. Because we divide students into ministry groups of 8-15, it is advisable to bring enough vehicles that you can divide and transport your students into groups of 10-15. Example: If you bring a 30 passenger bus, plan to bring additional vehicles so you can transport 15 in the bus, plus 15 in additional vehicles. Your group will be unable to transport your volunteers to sites if transportation is not adequate.
- ✓ **Drivers Safety:** Drivers should be responsible and comfortable with the vehicle they are driving, and should be willing to enforce ALL seat belt rules and drive safely while transporting students.
- ✓ **Drivers and Ministry Tracks:** If a driver wants to "guarantee" their placement in a construction crew, it is important that the person DOES NOT drive a vehicle that is used primarily to transport students (i.e. van/bus). It is advisable that they drive separate if they want to guarantee their placement in construction. Even if they drive separate, we will use their vehicle to transport students / adults to their worksite. Should a person drive a van or a bus, that person should realize that vans and buses typically are assigned first to community and children's ministries because those groups are typically larger.
- ✓ **Driving Distances:** Because we serve in three counties, drivers should be prepared to travel distances of 30 miles to their sites.

Clothing Expectations

- ✓ **Construction:** Long pants required
- ✓ **Girls-**
 - clothing should be loose fitting & modest
 - no soffe shorts / cheerleading shorts
 - shorts should be fingertip length
 - no tank tops / spaghetti straps
 - no suggestive messages on clothes
 - no negative messages on clothes
 - swimwear: 1 piece or overlapping tankini
- ✓ **Guys:**
 - clothing should be loose fitting & modest
 - no tank-tops or sleeveless shirts
 - no clothing with negative messages
 - no clothing with suggestive messages
- ✓ **Extra clothing:** All participants should pack clothing for a variety of ministries. You should be prepared to work in construction, childrens, or community ministries.

Food and Drink

- ✓ **Energy Drinks** are not allowed on campus or ministry sites. These can cause dehydration.

Additional Information (all ages)

- ✓ Big Creek Missions does not condone or tolerate sexual harassment or abuse in any form. All groups are strongly encouraged to run thorough background checks on all adult participants.
- ✓ For all participants (including adults): Immaturity, divisiveness, disregard for mission center policies, and disrespect of staff leadership will not be tolerated. In all situations, we will follow the example Christ set forth for Biblical reconciliation in Matthew 18:15-17. *Participants who disregard center policies and expectations may be sent home at the inconvenience and expense of their group. When participants sign the permission and release form, they agree to abide by these expectations and policies of Big Creek Missions. Big Creek missions staff reserves the right to terminate the participation of any individual or group that does not honor their commitment and abide by the expectations and policies of Big Creek Missions.*

Questions regarding these expectations and policies should be addressed with the Director at 606-653-0513 or info@bigcreekmissions.com