Volunteering FAQs

Who can volunteer at WSCP?

We welcome volunteers ages 15 and up to lend a hand at the food pantry as part of our normal volunteer shifts. Children between the ages 8+ are invited to volunteer with us through our Kids Make a Difference program. Middle school students and older are welcome to volunteer on their own through our Teens Make a Difference program.

What tasks do volunteers help with?

We offer a variety of different ways to give back. You can help with sorting grocery donations, stocking pantry shelves, repacking food and groceries, or assisting customers with getting the groceries they need. We also offer opportunities that require a bit of extra training, such as administrative work, data entry assistance, helping with youth volunteers, or driving to pick up food rescue donations.

When do you offer shifts?

You can join us six days a week for shifts ranging from two to four hours in length. We currently offer opportunities from Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to Noon.

Where does volunteering take place?

Most volunteer shifts are at our food pantry, located at 6805 Hobson Valley Drive, Suite 109 in Woodridge. We also offer additional opportunities to assist with offsite grocery distributions at other locations.

What are your COVID-19 health and safety requirements and precautions for volunteers?

All volunteers are encouraged to wear masks and must have closed toe shoes. When working with food, volunteers must also wear the non-latex gloves we provide at each shift.

What should I wear or bring to my volunteer shift?

Volunteers should dress in layers since the temperature can fluctuate in the food pantry and we want everyone to be comfortable. We offer a coat rack where any extra layers can be stored. We ask that volunteers leave valuables at home.

Where should I plan to park for my volunteer shift?

Parking is available on Hobson Valley Drive and behind the Seven Bridges Ice Arena.

Do you offer community service hours?

Yes! Contact Colleen to arrange.



Volunteering FAQs

How do I sign up to become a volunteer?

The first steps are creating a volunteer account and attending a new volunteer orientation. After you've completed your orientation, you're welcome to register for shifts through our website.

How far in advance do I need to register to volunteer?

Our volunteer shifts vary in terms of how quickly they fill up. Volunteers can schedule themselves for open shifts up until 24 hours before each shift's start time. If they are interested in volunteering less than 24 hours in advance, they can email our Volunteer Coordinator to be scheduled.

What if I need to cancel or reschedule my volunteer shift?

Volunteers can cancel or reschedule their shifts online up to 48 hours prior to the shift's start time. After 48 hours, they would need to contact our Volunteer Coordinator to cancel.

What if I have more questions about volunteering?

Please visit the Volunteer page of our website to learn more: <u>wscpantry.org/volunteer-2</u>. You can also contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Colleen Loftus, at <u>cloftus@wscpantry.org</u>.

