



CLOTHING POLICY

SUMMER 2013

YouthWorks loves the community where you are serving this summer! As you serve, your actions and appearance speak loudly and have the potential to influence the community's perception of YouthWorks and more importantly Christ. Choosing modest clothing helps to avoid distractions and misunderstandings. We ask that you choose apparel consistent with the following guidelines.

Please Bring

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. Here's how we define short: Let your arms fall to your side – if your fingers touch skin, bring a longer pair.

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

Some YouthWorks sites include swimming activities. Please choose modest, one-piece, swimsuits for these occasions. If you do not bring a one-piece for swimming, you'll be asked to wear a dark t-shirt over it. Please note that although we won't swim at every site, swimsuits are a good idea for additional privacy in the showers, in these instances it is OK to wear a two-piece.

Please Don't Bring

Apparel that distracts . . .

- Tank tops or sleeveless shirts
- Short shorts – including the recently popular running/track shorts
- Clothing that reveals undergarments, midriffs or chests
- Tight-fitting clothing – including leggings, yoga pants, etc.

Also, 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. While community members may choose to wear these clothing items, we know that our wearing them often work against our efforts to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus and so ask you to refrain. This distracting apparel can be disrespectful and damaging to our long-term relationships.

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.

We appreciate your help in creating a safe, respectful, distraction-free environment for your mission experience.