
Volunteer Dress Code & Hygiene Guide

Welcome! As a volunteer, you're helping create a warm, respectful, and safe environment for everyone. While our vibe is casual and friendly, we ask all volunteers to follow a few basic guidelines around appearance and hygiene — especially when working around food.

Dress Code: Casual but Clean & Respectful

Feel free to dress comfortably, but please make sure your clothing is appropriate for a community-focused space. Here's what to keep in mind:

What's Okay:

- Comfortable, casual clothes
- Items that allow you to move easily and stay on your feet
- Personal touches that reflect your identity, as long as they meet basic safety and respect guidelines
- We will provide clean aprons!

What to Avoid:

- Clothing that's ripped, heavily stained, or patched inappropriately
- Items with offensive language or references to drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
- Shorts or skirts shorter than mid-thigh
- Outfits that are excessively tight, sheer, or revealing - again, for YOUR safety

Footwear:

- Wear **comfortable, closed-toe shoes** — you'll be on your feet a lot.
- **No sandals, flip-flops, or open-toed shoes.**

Grooming & Hygiene Expectations

Especially when you're working near food, cleanliness and care really matter — not just for safety, but out of respect for those we're serving.

Personal Care

- **Tie back long hair** to prevent it from falling forward.
- If you're working near food, bring a **hairnet, hat, or head covering**.
 - Don't have one? We've got clean hats and bandanas to borrow!
- Keep **finger nails short and clean** — no polish or artificial nails if you'll be handling food.
- Go easy on **cologne or perfume** — some guests may be sensitive to strong scents.

- Please avoid **dangling jewelry** in food areas.
 - Simple items like a wedding band are fine.
 - Watches, bracelets, other rings/jewelry should be safely stored while volunteering
 - *Reminder: We're not responsible for lost items — store valuables somewhere safe!*

While You're Working

- **Keep phones put away** and stay present during your shift.
- **Wash your hands frequently**, especially:
 - Before starting your shift
 - After touching your hair or face
 - After removing gloves or switching tasks
 - After using the restroom
- Please avoid:
 - Touching your face
 - Chewing gum
 - Licking fingers (even if you're tempted!)
- **Use utensils only** — never scoop ice or food with your hands or cups.
- Handle glasses/cups from the sides — **never touch the rims**.
- When switching roles or tasks, **wash hands and change gloves**.
- **When to Wear Gloves**
 - Anytime you are handling ready-to-eat foods
 - When you are serving meals on the line
 - Anytime you're not sure- it's always a safe bet to wear gloves in the kitchen

Thank you for being part of this community effort. Your attention to these details helps create a respectful, safe, and welcoming space for everyone!