



Safety Kits for Seniors Volunteer Event Application

NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania collaborated with the University of Scranton's Occupational Therapy Department to identify household items that can make an older adult's living space safe. The carefully selected items are then installed by volunteers to eligible older adult homeowners in the NEPA area! As an extension of our quarterly Paint the Town event, we are now dedicating an entire week to installing safety kits for seniors open to the community. We are seeking groups of 2-5 volunteers to assist with the installation of Safety Kits in older adults' homes. *Note: Individual volunteers are welcome to apply but may be paired with other volunteers.* Safety kits include items such as fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, light bulbs and more! The installation of safety kits will give older adult homeowners' the ability to live safely and with dignity within their homes. This weeklong safety kit volunteer event will take place on **February 20th to February 24th!** Volunteer applications should be returned by **February 14th, 2023**, to Alyssa Espinoza at aespinoza@nwnepa.org!

Contact Information

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Phone: _____

T-shirt size: ___ Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___ 2XL _____ Other

Are you at least 16 years of age? Yes No

Service Information

Safety Kits take approximately 2 hours to install. Based on this information, please provide your date/time availability on the dates below in 2-hour increments.

Monday, February 20th _____ Tuesday, February 21st _____

Wednesday, February 22nd _____ Thursday, February 23rd _____

Friday, February 24th _____

Do you feel comfortable using power tools? Yes No

Do you feel comfortable using a ladder? Yes No

What is the furthest distance you are willing to travel for your service? _____

Is there a specific area you would prefer to stay in? _____

Are there any other volunteers that you would like to be grouped with for the event:

Yes No

If yes, please provide the name of the volunteer as it appears on their application:

How did you learn about the Safety Kits for Seniors Volunteer Event?

Group Information

**Only fill this section out if you are volunteering with a group/organization/company/etc during the same time frames.*

Group/Organization/Company Name: _____

Group contact name: _____ Group contact phone: _____

Number of group members: _____

Group members names, emails, and T-shirt sizes: _____

Are all group members over the age of 16? Yes No

Please Note: All group members will be required to view the training video and submit the questionnaire prior to their service.

Do you consent to a background check being conducted? Yes No

Groups: Do all members consent to a background check being conducted? Yes No

Volunteer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Safety Kits for Seniors FAQ

What will happen after I submit my application?

1. Your application will be reviewed, and a background check will be conducted. Once you are approved, the volunteer coordinator will begin matching volunteers with eligible clients based on the desired distance and time availability. You/your group will be contacted by a representative from NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania to confirm your individual/group's participation and provide instructions and liability waivers. Waivers must be returned to Alyssa Espinoza prior to the start of your service.
2. You will be required to watch a training video that goes over what items are in the safety kit, and how to install certain ones that may require guidance. This training video will be available on our website, however a link will be emailed along with a short questionnaire on the video will be sent out once applications are reviewed as well. Volunteers are then required to complete the follow-up questionnaire and submit to Alyssa Espinoza at aespinoza@nwnepa.org in order to ensure participation in the event. **Questionnaires and Liability waivers are due prior to the start of your service.**
3. Tools and material acquisition will be further discussed in a follow-up email once application is submitted. One volunteer from each group will be tasked with acquiring the materials unless otherwise specified.

What items are in the Safety Kits? How do I know which items the older adult receives?

- Safety Kits will include all of the following items: Exterior solar light, smoke/CO alarm, closet lighting kits, fire extinguisher, carpet tape, flash light, Night-lights, Swiffer duster, weather stripping, radon test kits, non-skid treads for exterior steps, batteries, non-slip shower mats and an exterior door mat.
- When arriving at the home of the older adult, the volunteers will go through each item in the kit with the client to assess which items the client would need/want to safely in their home. Most will accept all items, however if they decline any items, the items will be returned to NWNPEA. Extra items can be available upon request.

What if I do not know how to install one of the items?

- All safety kit installations will be assigned to groups of 2-4 volunteers, and therefore there are multiple people there to assist with the installation. If no one in the group is able to install, please make NWNPEA aware, and we will send a professional out to complete the installation. You may leave that item with the client.

What is expected of me as a volunteer?

- All volunteers are expected to make at least a 2 hour commitment to the installation of one safety kit. Since it takes approximately 2 hours to install, volunteers are asked to provide their availability in 2 hours increments. *Note: While the installation might not take a whole two hours, we ask the volunteers spend at least an hour and a half at the site to allow for socialization with the client.*
- You are expected to not only view the training, but also answer and submit the corresponding questionnaire prior to the event to ensure you are aware why certain items are in the kit, as well as how to install item that require tools. If you feel you need further instruction on how to install an item in the kit, please let Alyssa Espinoza know when acquiring materials, and further instructions/handouts can be supplied.
- Dress comfortably the day of the event! There is no dress code, however, please be mindful that you will be entering the homes of older adults to do laborious work. NWNPEA T-shirts will be given to all volunteers the day of the event, volunteers are encouraged to wear these while volunteering.

OTHER QUESTIONS?

Please call Alyssa Espinoza at NeighborWorks Northeastern PA at 570-558-2490 or Aespinoza@nwnepa.org !