

Wood Ministry Delivery
Frequently Asked Questions:
650 Alwington Blvd.,
Warrenton, VA 20186
(January 2024)

1) What is the wood ministry?

The wood ministry is a year around project coordinated by Fauquier Community Coalition (FCC) a non-profit organization that works to alleviate poverty through organizing church and other groups in our community. Many churches and church members participate in the ministry including Warrenton Baptist Church, St. James Episcopal Church, The Bridge Community Church, Warrenton Methodist Church, St. Patrick's Orthodox Church, Warrenton Church of Christ, Midland Church of the Brethren and others.

2) What does the ministry do?

The ministry delivers wood to needy individuals in our community free of charge. Currently we are the only source of heat for more than 50 families in the central and southern parts of Fauquier County. We deliver over 450 truckloads during the winter using an all-volunteer workforce. Our operations and delivery volunteers will contribute more than 3,500 hours to the ministry in a season.

3) How do we know these families are truly in need?

Our organization works with the Department of Social Services to vet our clients. Some clients only have temporary needs therefore, the list of those in need may vary from season to season.

4) Do you have a need for people to deliver wood?

The greatest challenge we have is finding people who have pickup trucks and are willing to deliver wood to our clients in the county. Over the past few years, we have made major improvements in the program to make it easier for volunteers with trucks to respond to the needs of our clients.

5) Do you have a need to have a truck of certain specifications?

We have volunteers with all kinds and sizes of pick-up trucks, while others may use trailers to deliver the wood. We also have a few clients where a 4-wheel drive truck is needed to access their property. That information is noted, and we coordinate the types of trucks available which meet the need of the clients.

6) Am I obligated to make a certain number of deliveries?

No, not at all. By signing up you will receive general notification of clients in need of our delivery drivers. You can volunteer whenever your schedule allows. Some volunteers deliver multiple times every week, others are only able to volunteer once or twice during the season.

7) How does the process work?

The process is simple, just provide the ministry with your e-mail address in order to be put on the distribution list. You can send a request to Kay McClure, Delivery Leader at khmccclure58@gmail.com or to Joe McClure, Operations Leader at jmmrocket85@gmail.com

Deliveries are made two ways.

1. You can come to the wood lot at 650 Alwington Blvd., any Saturday morning from 9AM until 11AM (October-May) and 8AM-10AM (June-September). You will be provided with a client's name and address, and volunteers will help you load up your vehicle. We attempt to deliver to all our clients ahead of need and started deliveries this year on 9/16/2023.
2. We occasionally get more urgent requests from our clients. When that happens, an e-mail will be sent to the group of drivers and the first person to "REPLY ALL" to the e-mail claims the delivery. There is now a combination lock with a simple chain gated entrance (to keep out unauthorized dumping.) Pre coordination by phone or email is required between the two points of contact listed above, should access be necessary during other times of the week.

8) What do I do when I get to the client's home?

When you deliver wood to our clients you should be able to see where wood is stored on their property and just simply toss the delivered wood onto the stack. You need not have any contact with the client but may wish to converse with them once you arrive. Some of our clients like to greet the deliverers, others wish to stay inside.

9) Why should I want to volunteer?

Every driver has told us how rewarding it is to provide warmth to some of the neediest members of our community. Many volunteers take along their children on the delivery to give them an appreciation for how blessed their lives are compared to those in need. Without the help of our volunteers 40+ families will be without heat this winter. No other viable option exists for these people in need. Professionally delivered wood costs approximately \$250 or more a truckload. The delivery would last some of our families, some who live in uninsulated homes, about one or two weeks depending on the size of the delivery. The Wood Ministry provides an invaluable service for many residences in Fauquier County.

Relevant Web Links:

<https://warrentonbaptistchurch.org/serve/ministries/wood-ministry-2/>

<https://www.fauquiercommunitycoalition.org/firewood-initiative/>

<https://www.letsvolunteer.org/need/detail/?need/>