

Wood Ministry Delivery
Frequently Asked Questions:
650 Alwington Blvd.,
Warrenton, VA 20186

(2024-2025 Season)

1) What is the Wood Ministry?

The Wood Ministry is a year-round project coordinated by The Fauquier Community Coalition (FCC), a non-profit organization that works to alleviate poverty through organizing church and other groups in our community. The physical woodlot is located on Warrenton Baptist Church property on Alwington Blvd. Many churches, church members and others participate in the ministry including:

- Greenwich Presbyterian Church
- Midland Church of the Brethren
- St. James Episcopal Church
- St. John's Catholic Church
- St. Patrick's Orthodox Church
- The Bridge Community Church
- Warrenton Baptist Church
- Warrenton Church of Christ
- Warrenton Methodist Church, and others.

2) What does the ministry do?

The ministry delivers split, seasoned wood to needy individuals in our community free of charge. Currently we are the only source of heat for more than 54 families in the central and southern parts of Fauquier County. Our 2023-2024 season of volunteers delivered 517 truckloads of split, seasoned wood during the winter months using an all-volunteer workforce. Our volunteers contributed more than 3,600 hours to the ministry during the 2023-2024 season.

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

Our organization works with the Department of Social Services and other local non-profit organizations 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?

YES. The greatest challenge we have is finding people who have pickup trucks, trailers and dump trucks/trailers and are willing to deliver wood to our clients. Over the past few years, we have made major improvements in the program to make it easier for volunteers with these vehicles 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 types and sizes of pick-up trucks, while others may use trailers and/or dump trailers or dump trucks to deliver the wood. We also have volunteers who have less rugged trucks who can deliver as well. We do 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 to meet the need of the clients.

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

Not at all. By signing up you will receive an email with general notification of clients in need of a wood delivery. 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. The Woodlot is accessible anytime with an appropriate access code provided ahead of a delivery.

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. Please send a request to Kay McClure, Delivery Coordinator at khmccclure58@gmail.com or to Joe McClure, Operations Leader at jmmrocket85@gmail.com

Deliveries are made two ways.

1. Come to the wood lot at 650 Alwington Blvd., Warrenton, any Wednesday or Saturday morning from 9AM until 11AM in the cooler months; (October-May); 8AM-10AM in the Summer months; (June-September). You will be provided with a client's name and address, and volunteers will help you load up your vehicle. We will attempt to deliver to all our clients ahead of need and will start deliveries this year on Saturday, September 21st.
2. We occasionally receive more urgent requests from our clients. When that happens, an e-mail will be sent to the group of drivers. The first person to "REPLY ALL" to the e-mail claims the delivery. There is now a combo lock with a simple chain-gated entrance (to prevent 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 has been stored on their property. 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 if they come out to receive the wood. Some of our clients like to greet the deliverers, others wish to stay inside. You are not required to stack delivered wood.

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, 54+ families will be without heat this winter. No Plan B exists for these people. Professionally delivered split wood costs approximately \$250 or more a truckload. The delivery would last some of our families, 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/>