

# Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful -- Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. How many people make up a crew?

A 'full crew' generally consists of around 15 people; they adopt a home and homeowner, and they do the entire job.

## 2. What if I only have a few people who want to join me as a crew?

You could be a 'partial crew,' and we would either match you with a full crew that could use additional volunteers, or maybe your small crew could take on a very small project on your own.

## 3. I've never painted a house? Is there training for inexperienced volunteers?

We have an Orientation and Training meeting for crew coordinators (usually two to three people from each crew). Our handbook is mailed to coordinators prior to that meeting, full of tips and "how-to's." There's also a one-page outline with each step in the process, from start to finish.

Nonetheless, written information is no substitute for experience, so it's a good idea for someone on your crew to have at least done some painting, even if it's not exterior painting.

Last but perhaps most important: you will get a Technical Advisor. This is someone who is either a contractor or paint-store employee or do-it-yourselfer with lots of experience; he or she will meet you at the house shortly after the training meeting to walk around and talk about what needs to be done. Throughout the project, your tech advisor will be available by phone to answer questions.

## 4. When does a crew get started?

Homes are assigned in mid-June; crews can get started whenever they wish, creating a schedule that meets their volunteers' needs. Most crews wait until after July 4. Jobs are to be done by August 15.

## 5. What is the time commitment? How long does it take to paint a home?

Crews generally have three to four work parties to scrape, prime, and paint (and possibly do a few minor repairs). In addition, three to four people pressure wash the home a week or so before the first work party. We recommend that you ask each volunteer to come to at least two work parties so that you have plenty of help with the prep work.

## 6. Do we paint inside the house too?

No; this is exterior house-painting only.

## 7. What do you mean by "minor repairs?"

Minor repairs might include replacing a broken window or a piece of rotten siding. These sorts of minor repairs are pretty much required. Hopefully you'll have someone on your crew who can do this, or maybe someone on the crew will have a friend who can. If not, we'll try to find someone.

## 8. Where will "our home" be located?

We have applicants all over Tacoma/Pierce County. The crew registration form asks if you have a particular town or neighborhood you prefer, and we do our best to give you what you request.

## 9. What supplies do you provide?

We provide the paint and anything else that stays on the house (caulk, window putty, repair materials). We also have a pressure washer for crews to borrow. We do NOT provide brushes, rollers, drop cloths, ladders, etc. Most crews get those items from their volunteer members' garages and basements; many crews ask each volunteer to bring their own brush and/or roller.

**REGISTER ONLINE at [www.paintbeautiful.org](http://www.paintbeautiful.org)**

**Or call 253-383-3056 x 106**