



What you need to know if Alabama Campers on Mission comes to your church or organization for a construction project.

Alabama Campers on Mission (ALCOM) is a group of Christian men and women who love the Lord and are called to work as volunteers in His service. We were organized and chartered by the Southern Baptist Convention. There are about 6,500 of us in 40 states organized into 29 chapters.

Although we are a Southern Baptist organization, our members are not all Southern Baptists, and our projects are not all with Southern Baptist churches. We work with several churches whose beliefs and practices are compatible with those of Southern Baptists.

We look forward to being with you. Our intent is to help you as much as possible with your project. We promise that our work will be as good as most professionals, because we care about what we do. Although our average age is almost 70, we work as fast as many professionals. We produce a lot of work.

We have a good reputation, and if you desire, we can provide to you many references from past projects.

As we prepare for the project, there are some things that are basic:

- We all need to pray and prepare our hearts for the project.
- We must talk enough between us so that we understand what you and we each can do and what we each can expect from the other.

ALCOM can normally provide:

- Planning Help. We can help with planning your project. To do so, we need to meet with you, maybe several times, early in the planning process. We need a copy of any plans that you may have well in advance.

- Labor. We are strictly volunteers. We do not accept payments of any kind for the labor that we provide.
- Tools. We provide our own hand and power tools.
- Shelter. We have our own "houses on wheels."

- These are the basic services that Alabama Campers on Mission can normally provide, depending on the volunteers available for your project:
 - o Project Supervision
 - o Help with certain basic building design, site evaluation, and foundation layout.
 - o Framing, to include wood or metal studs, floor and ceiling members, external sheathing, roof trusses, roof decking, and "blacking in."
 - o Sheetrock installation.
 - o Electrical and plumbing, both rough and finish, provided the ALCOM members who volunteer for your project have the skills, and provided the permit/inspection process will allow it.
 - o Certain metal roofing, provided roof pitch is 4/12 or less.
 - o Door and Window installation.
 - o Vinyl siding.
 - o Interior and exterior wood and vinyl trim provided the ALCOM members who volunteer for the project have the skills.
 - o Limited painting.
 - o Under certain circumstances, ALCOM can install suspended ceilings.

Certain services should be done by professionals. These may require special tools and skills, and most professionals can perform these better and faster:

- Installation of steel buildings.
- Concrete, block, and brick, although ALCOM can help with pouring and finishing small concrete pads.
- Sheetrock and ceiling finishing.
- Shingle roofing.
- Cabinets and countertops.
- Floor Coverings (carpet, vinyl, ceramic tile, or wood flooring)

Church responsibilities:

- The church is responsible for all of the materials required for the project. This includes all wood, metal, nails, and screws, electrical and plumbing parts, and all other expendable supplies.
- The list of materials should be coordinated with the ALCOM project leader well in advance. To avoid disruptive delays, materials should be on hand prior to the arrival of ALCOM.
- There may be a need for equipment or special tools that ALCOM does not have. Many projects require scissor lifts, scaffolds, or other equipments that must be rented by the church.
- The church must provide a point of contact who has the authority to make project decisions for the church. He or she should be able to answer daily questions about the design and plans for the project, as well as the source for all required materials, supplies, and special tools.
- Depending on the city, county, or state, the project may require permits and trade inspections. The church is responsible for researching and obtaining all required permits and inspections.
- We ask for a light lunch meal (even though not required) on work days. This gives us a chance to know each other better. We use this time together for a daily devotion. It also saves time so that we can get back to work quicker.

- We take a short break each morning and afternoon. We would like water, drinks, and possibly snacks. Depending on the temperature, water or Gatorade is critical. Also, some ALCOM members need energy supplements (crackers, cookies) during breaks.
- We request access to toilets in the church or a portable toilet next to the work site.
- Parking Spaces for RVs. Each camper requires a space about 20 feet by 50 feet. The number of campers that can be parked in the space will depend on the size, the shape, and the access to the parking area. Each RV has two vehicles. If the RV is a Class A type, it will also tow a car or pickup. If the RV is a fifth wheel or travel trailer, it will be towed by another vehicle.
- Infrequently, additional (non-camping) workers may require a place to stay, possibly with church families. This is rare and will be coordinated in advance.
- Electricity for RVs. Each camper needs 30 amps of 120 volt electricity. One mobile home type 240-volt power panel on a utility pole will provide electricity for twelve RVs. Most projects require two poles. We will wire our own distribution panels to your power panel. RVs then plug into our distribution panels.
- Water for RVs. A one-inch PVC water pipe with two to four high-volume faucets will provide sufficient water for most parking areas.
- Sewer Access for RVs. ALCOM has special macerator pumps and hoses and can pump our "black water" 150 feet or so to your 3 or 4-inch vertically-oriented access to a septic tank or sewer cleanout port. If sewer access is not available, a sewer service, possibly the company that services the portable toilet, if required, can pump out our "black water."

NOTE: The specific locations for RV parking, electrical power panels, water faucets, and sewer access, should be coordinated with the COM project leader well in advance.

Because ALCOM has no financial interest in the project and because ALCOM does not charge for labor:

- ALCOM cannot guarantee its work.
- ALCOM cannot be held responsible to the church or church members for property damage, structural failures, or injury to any individuals including our own ALCOM members.
- Similarly, because each ALCOM member is responsible for his or her own health and accident insurance, ALCOM will NOT hold the church responsible for illness or injury of any ALCOM members.

Additional information for the church:

- While we are a part of your project, we want to be a part of your church. Most of us will attend your services on Sunday and mid-week.
- Some of our ladies help around the work site, but most are available to do other tasks in support of the church. These tasks can include visiting nursing homes or shut-ins, sewing, cooking, or many other things that you may suggest.
- If there are church members who can work along side ALCOM members, they are certainly welcome. No special skills are required, just a willingness to work.

Information ALCOM would like to know about the community

- Grocery, drug, and hardware stores
- Shopping centers, Wal-Mart, RV centers, etc
- Places to eat
- Places of interest to visit
- Mailing addresses to receive mail, and contact phone numbers so that family and friends can contact us in case of emergency.
- Where to go for emergency medical and dental care.
- Sources to get propane gas cylinders refilled.

Our state website: www.alabamacom.org.

The national website is www.namb.net, go to "Mission Opportunities," and then to "Campers on Mission."

Your project coordinator is _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Expendable supplies we frequently use:

- Our nailers are Paslode and require Paslode brand supplies
 - o For most framing, we use 3" x .131" Paslode strip nails.
 - o For sheathing and decking, 2 3/8" x .113" Paslode strip nails.
 - o Our nailers use red label Paslode gas cylinders.