

Building Connections

Summer 2025

Habitat Staff Spotlight: Meet Rachel Axtman

Program Evaluation & Data Manager at Habitat for Humanity Portland

Tell us about your role and how your work impacts homeowners. What would you like to share?

As the program evaluation and data manager at Habitat, my job is to help our team better understand the impact of the work we do and look for ways we can improve our programs and services. We do that through surveys, listening sessions, and by looking closely at the data we have around homeownership. When you, Habitat Homeowners, share your feedback and experiences with us, real people look at it and it helps us make changes all the time—big and small! From the timing of events to policies and programs, your feedback is invaluable.

What are you looking forward to in the next year?

On the Habitat side of things, I'm looking forward to rolling out a new application website that will give real-time updates to people applying to buy a home with Habitat. On the personal side, I'm looking forward to hiking and backpacking with my dog this summer, particularly in Washington and around Mt. Hood. **Be on the look out for the 2026 Homeowner Impact Survey, arriving in your inbox in the new year! Participants will be compensated for their time.**



Contact us

Our Killingsworth office is open weekdays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Appointments are encouraged but not required.

Payment:
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In this issue

- Home Repair Applications Open July 1st
- Homeowner Leadership Council Updates
- Habitat Staff Spotlight
- Homeowner Education Classes & Events
- 2025 Annual Event – See You There
- Summer Free For All



Summer Home Maintenance Checklist

Here are a few proactive and preventative steps to keep your home comfortable and your appliances running efficiently this time of year.

These simple tasks can help prevent breakdowns, save you money, and keep your home in the best shape for the long term.

- ☐ Check your HVAC filters and change if needed
- ☐ Clean your refrigerator and the freezer coils
- ☐ Clean your kitchen exhaust fan filter
- ☐ Check your dishwasher for leaks
- ☐ Check for leaks around kitchen and bathroom cabinets and toilets
- ☐ Clean your dryer vent and lint trap
- ☐ Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____



Applications for Home Repairs reopen July 1st!

Habitat for Humanity’s Home Repair Program helps homeowners with low incomes in Portland, Multnomah, and Washington counties by addressing critical health, safety, and accessibility issues. Repairs may include roofing, plumbing, ADA modifications, and more.

Qualified homeowners may receive 0% interest loans, including deferred options with no monthly payments.

To learn more about the program and process, scan the QR code to visit habitatportlandregion.org/home-repair.



Homeowner Leadership Council Updates

The Homeownership Leadership Council (HLC) is a small and mighty group that explores leadership development, advocacy initiatives, and serves in an advisory role with the organization. This spring a dedicated group of HLC members came together to celebrate at the HopeBuilder Luncheon. We extend our heartfelt thanks to this group for their passion, enthusiasm, and time. Watch for future opportunities to join the HLC! To learn more, please email Annette Pronk at Annette.Pronk@habitatportlandregion.org.

Pictured above: Annette, Alex, Jennie, Natashaia, Ellen, Lizet, Salome. Members not shown: Angie, Deloris, Heather, Lei, & Sandra.



Homeowner Education Workshops & Events

Share ideas, build skills, and connect with experts! Our education workshops are a great place to dig into topics that matter to homeowners, free of charge. Scan the QR code to view and register for classes at bit.ly/habitatclasses.



Summer Savvy: Extreme Heat Preparedness

With Portland Bureau of Emergency Management
Saturday, June 28, 10am-12pm | Main office

Save Water, Save Money!

With Portland Water Bureau
Saturday, July 26, 10am-12pm | Main office

Protecting Your Home: Essentials of Home Insurance

With Oregon Division of Financial Regulation
Saturday August 9, 10am-12pm | Main office

Save the Date for the “Home Safe Home” Homeowner Resource Fair

Saturday, September 20, 11am-2pm | Main Office parking lot
Are you “ready”? Join us for our annual event exclusively for Habitat homeowners and families. Enjoy delicious food and entertainment, raffle prizes, and more! Explore local programs and get hands on with practical demonstrations that can help you prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. Invitations will reach your mailbox by August!



Summer Free For All

Join Portland Parks & Recreation’s Summer Free for All for outdoor entertainment at parks across the city. Scan the QR code below for more at bit.ly/summerfreeforall2025.

Free Lunch & Play
Meals and play time for youth 18 years and under. Times vary by location.

Free Movies in the Park
Evenings start at 7:30 pm with performances from local musicians and free popcorn until the film begins at sunset. Closed captioning, ASL interpreters, and FM loop amplifiers available!

Free Concerts in the Park
Arrive early with a comfy seat to enjoy live music from local musicians in a wide variety of genres!

Free Festivals, Performances, Open Swim, and more!
Visit Portland Parks & Rec for full details at bit.ly/summerfreeforall2025.

