

Volunteer Opportunity Homestead Farm & Schoolhouse



Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer?

The 1870s Homestead Farm and Schoolhouse are open Sunday afternoons from 1-5 pm June-August. Homestead volunteers work with CNC staff to interpret 1870s rural life in Midland County and help connect visitors to agriculture and the natural resources we rely on.

Our dedicated team of Homestead volunteers enjoy working with visitors of all ages. They help welcome them to the Homestead, answer questions, may lead hands-on activities, work in the gardens and demonstrate historic skills

The Homestead offers a wide range of volunteer opportunities. No previous knowledge necessary, as training is provided.

As a Homestead volunteer interpreting the history of CNC land and buildings, you may:

- Encourage visitors to interact with Homestead-related items. For example, interpret daily life on the farm and the chores it included such as: using a rug beater and broomcorn broom to clean the floors, or pushing up your sleeves and working the washboard to do laundry.
- Interpret 1870s food and meals by rolling and cutting out salt dough biscuits, harvesting and preparing herbs for a meal, or perhaps sharing cooking techniques using the woodstove in the log cabin (2022 status TBD, special training required).
- Teach visitors about crops grown and harvested at the Homestead and the tools and equipment necessary to accomplish these tasks.
- Tend to the Herb Garden, encourage interactive play in the Children's Garden, or assist the garden manager in the Heirloom Garden.
- Help visitors connect to nature by sparking creativity through related crafts or games
- Interpret the schoolhouse by leading visitors in penmanship exercises on slate boards, teaching McGuffey Reader mini lessons or playing traditional recess game.

Volunteer Orientation – May 22, 2022 from 1-3 pm

Homestead volunteers are asked to work a minimum of 5 times during the season. RSVP to Corrine Bloomfield, Historical Interpreter, cbloomfield@chippewanaturecenter.org

Application Procedure: Please complete the online volunteer application at www.chippewanaturecenter.org/volunteer, under *areas you'd like to volunteer* check **Historical Programs** and indicate **Homestead Sundays** in the Additional Information section. If you are a current volunteer or have already applied, you may contact Cathy Devendorf, Director of Volunteers and Outreach at volunteer@chippewanaturecenter.org and do not need to complete the online application.