

Blandford Nature Center & Mixed Greens Volunteer Opportunities at a Glance

1715 Hillburn NW • Grand Rapids, MI • 49504 • P. 616.735.6240 • F. 616.735.6255

EcoFIT School Group Trail Guide – Lead school groups (preK-5) of 15 or less on seasonal tours which last 1 ½ hours each. Program and background materials provided. Tours scheduled M– F 9am – 3pm.

Story Hour – Lead Thursday story hour from 10– 11am. Seasonal story, craft, and hike. Children ages 3-10.

Blandford Daily Docent – Greets visitors and answers general Nature Center questions. Offers tours of the Nature Center grounds, homestead buildings, and Wildlife Education Center.

Wildlife Education – Provides animal care support for the Wildlife Education staff. Daily AM shifts begin at 9:30am. PM shifts begin at 1:30pm.

Grounds & Maintenance – Tasks vary seasonally including trail trimming, repairs, painting, shoveling.

General Store – Conduct merchandise sales and answers general Nature Center questions.

Mixed Greens Program Leader – Co-lead school programs for K-5 students. School garden programs scheduled M-F 3–6pm. Summer programs between 9am-4pm. All programs currently offsite at partner schools.

Mixed Greens Program Support – Gathering and preparing supplies, weekly supply shopping.

Workshop Series – Assist with or lead workshops.

Youth Work Days at BNC – Open to youth ages 11-18. Scheduled monthly during school year, weekly during summer months.

The Farm – Planting, weeding, harvesting in vegetable gardens/maintaining grounds. Work changes seasonally.

Historical Interpreter – Blacksmith, cabin, or schoolhouse interpreter every 3rd Sat. of the month.

Special Events – Harvest! The Festival (Oct), Sugarbush (March) and other special events.

Sugarbush Operator – Work in sugarshack on evaporation pan, producing maple syrup while educating public. Mid February – Mid April.

Scouts – Lead outdoor Girl Scout or Boy Scout programs one Saturday per month.

Summer Day Camp- Junior Counselors (9th grade+) or Camp Assistants (6th grade+) for one week in the summer.

Garden Maintenance – Watering, weeding, and dividing plants in Blandford's various gardens: Rain, Native Plants, Pioneer, and General Store.

Office Help – Perform a variety of office tasks such as filing, preparing mailings, and data entry.

Large Group Opportunities
Farm, Maintenance, Special Events

...Learn by Doing