

Elk Run Farm Volunteer Information

What to wear:

- Please be mindful of the weather and dress appropriately for farm work in clothing that you don't mind getting dirty.
- Recommended:
 - Sun Protection (ie hat, layers, long sleeves, sunglasses)
 - Rain layers

What to bring:

- A reusable water bottle (we have drinking water onsite), hat, sunscreen and gloves are recommended.
- Volunteers with allergies (bees, plants, etc.) should bring any medication they might need to the farm.
- Snacks/lunch: Elk Run Farm does not provide food for volunteers.

What you might be doing:

- Farming is hard work. Workdays typically include light to medium physical labor that may include raking, hoeing, planting, weeding, hauling materials, mulching, turning compost, and harvesting produce.
- We are committed to finding projects that match all skills and abilities; please don't hesitate to let us know what will work best for you.
- Stop for a water break any time you want! It is important to stay hydrated.

Facilities:

- Porta-John is located next to the parking lot and pavilion.
- Pavilion and picnic tables are available to volunteers for shade and breaks.

Weather:

- Thunder/Lightning: If there is thunder and lightning, volunteers will return to their vehicles at the first sound of nearby thunder and remain in the vehicles until 30 minutes after the last thunder event.
- Heat: If there is a "Heat Advisory," farm work will continue, but volunteers may want to consider rescheduling their work. If a "Heat Warning" is forecast, then there will be no volunteer activities for that day. Each volunteer should decide whether to work on any given day based on your personal limitations and comfort level.

Other:

- Elk Run Farm is not responsible for your personal belongings.
- No pets allowed on parts of the farm where edible plants are growing.

Contact Information:

- Before the event - Maggie Rickman, Program Coordinator
 - Email: volunteer@skcfc.org, Phone: (724) 986-9714
- Day of event - Jillian Hirst Johns, Assistant Farm Manager
 - Email: Phone: (425) 358-1567

Elk Run Farm Volunteer Policies

Record of Volunteer Hours:

Volunteers are responsible for signing the time sheets upon each visit. This allows Elk Run Farm to provide recognition of service, validates time of service as work experience for future job references and provides the farm with tracking data required by farm funders and partners.

Smoking Policy:

Elk Run Farm is committed to the promotion of healthy lifestyles. In the spirit of that commitment, we do not allow smoking on the property.

Dress for Safety:

Safety glasses, hearing protection, and work gloves are available and should be worn when requested by a staff member. Closed toed shoes are recommended but not required. Safety is our number one priority so please alert staff of any concerns and don't be afraid to take any necessary precautions.

Equipment / Tools:

Tools and equipment should not be used without proper authorization and supervision from appropriate staff member. The tools and equipment may only be used for the tasks for which it is intended. Volunteers under the age of 16 may not use dangerous farm equipment, such as power tools. If unsure of how to use any tools or equipment, seek a staff member for instruction.

Minor Volunteers:

Volunteers under the age of 12 may not participate in farm activities unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. Volunteers between the ages of 12-18 can volunteer without a parent or guardian, but must have proper paperwork in place and staff authorization first.

Conduct:

1. Volunteers must treat community members, other volunteers, and staff with dignity, compassion, and respect. Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
2. The consumption of alcohol on the farm is under the staffs' discretion. Please ask a staff member before consuming alcohol at the farm.