

EarthDance Volunteer Orientation

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for EarthDance. Our volunteer opportunities are frequent, fun, and diverse. If you have particular skills you would like to contribute, please let us know. If you would like to volunteer on the farm, please print and sign the waiver and photo release (see page 3). Bring it to the farm the first time you volunteer.

The farm is located at 233 South Dade Avenue, Ferguson MO, 63135.

History and Programs

Founded in 2008 by Molly Rockamann, EarthDance is a non-profit educational farm, located in St. Louis's North County, whose purpose is to develop educated and engaged food citizens that will lead and support the sustainable food movement and strive to preserve farmland in the St. Louis region. Since 2009, EarthDance has operated a season-long Organic Farming Apprenticeship program that trains its participants in all aspects of sustainable farming from seed to market. EarthDance also sells its produce at two farmers markets in the St. Louis region, provides educational tours of its farming operations, and participates in a variety of community outreach events across St. Louis. In 2011, EarthDance launched its community supported agriculture (CSA) program to the public and established an artists-in-residence program, and hosted a pilot summer camp for middle school students. In June of 2012, Camp EarthDance will consist of two week-long sessions. Overall, EarthDance carries out its mission through programs designed to strengthen the sense of community among the participants and celebrate the culture in agriculture.

Farm Schedule

Monday: 1:00PM-5:00 PM

Tuesday: 8:00AM-12:00PM and 12:00PM- 4:00PM

Wednesday: No Field Work Shifts Thursday: No Field Work Shift

Friday: 8:00AM-12:00PM* and 12:00PM-4:00PM Saturday: 8:00AM-12:PM* and 12:00PM-4:00PM

Sunday: No Field Work Shift

^{*}Denotes harvest shift. Open to returning (not first-time) volunteers



Occasionally a farm shift is cancelled; <u>please call or text the shift leader before</u> <u>you leave for your volunteer shift.</u>

Contact Info

The EarthDance office phone number is (314) 521-1006. M-F 8:30am-4:30pm

Matt Lebon is the go-to person for volunteer-related questions. You can email him at <u>volunteer@earthdancefarms.org</u>. His phone number is (636) 236-4068

Josh Mueller, Farm Manager. His phone number is (970) 221-0163. You may also contact him by email:

Stephanie Jansing, Assistant Farm Manager. Her phone number is (513) 484-5452. farm@earthdancefarms.org

Molly Rockamann is EarthDance's Director. You may reach her at the office or her cell: 314-348-6999 earthdancefarms@gmail.com

Things to Know Before Your Visit to the EarthDance FARM:

Farm Policies

- Before Beginning work on the farm, you must sign a liability waiver.
- Arrive at the beginning of a shift, prepared to work and to follow directions from the shift leader.
- After signing necessary forms, you may volunteer during any shift.
- Treat all farm workers and visitors with courtesy.
- Record your work hours in the volunteer fieldwork log.
- Cigarette smoking is prohibited on the farm.
- There is a port-a-potty on the farm.

What to wear?

Clothing choices are important for not only sun safety but also protecting yourself from plant material. The following are suggested:

- Dress in layers!
- Wear **long** durable pants like blue jeans or khakis
- Wear a thin **long**-sleeved shirt for sun and scratch protection!
- Shoes should be comfortable but durable and tough, they will get dirty!
- No open toed shoes allowed.
- Wear white or lighter colors as they reflect the heat
- Sunscreen or sun protection should be utilized



- A wide brimmed **hat** that covers the face, ears and neck
- You may want to bring a bandana or cooling cloth to wear around you neck or brow

What to bring?

Be sure to bring water! If you're working with us in the fields (or even if you're just taking a tour), you need to stay hydrated! You may also want to bring snacks if you'll be at the farm for a full morning or afternoon.

Tools If you'll be working with us, you may want to bring gardening gloves to work in. Tools will be provided, but if you have your own hoe or spade you enjoy using, by all means, bring it! (Make sure it's labeled so that it goes home with you too!)

Camera & Notebook – You may want to take photographs or write notes about your experience! Please share with them us afterwards, on our facebook page!

Farm Location:

[Please note: This is not the EarthDance office/mailing address.]

Mueller Organic Farm 233 South Dade Ave Ferguson, MO 63135

(Google maps or Mapquest work well for driving directions.)

Please park on the street. The farm is located in the middle of a neighborhood, so please be respectful and make it easy for cars to go around you. There are also a few spots to park just up the driveway on the right, but usually they're taken. Do not drive past the 'gate'.

Safety Extreme safety must be exercised at all times, especially when working with any type of equipment, including tillers, pruners, knives, etc. Also, we have bees and poison ivy on the farm. If you are severely allergic to either, we need to know in advance. We do our best to avoid them at all times! Please consider bringing a first aid kit with you.



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