

Midnight Farm Volunteer Project Activity Ideas

(highlighted projects are either done, partially done, or scheduled)

1. Raised gardening beds – wooden planting boxes, some on the ground, some wheelchair accessible – Raised gardening beds completed by Alex Fraser for his Eagle Project. Ground level raised beds completed by Lawrence Girl Scout troop.
2. Landscaping at entry-way using native trees, shrubs, perennials. – The west side was completed by Bill Gurney on 6/5/10 for his Eagle project, but the east side still needs done.
3. Design & building of a fire pit and log seating area near the Lodge and gardens area.
4. Design & building of “Old Joe Walker’s Theater in the Woods” that includes stage, seating and a fire pit. (our CEO has design ideas in mind)
5. Landscaping at the southeast corner of the property.
6. Landscaping around Children’s Play House – nothing too fancy; something that doesn’t need to be watered frequently since there’s no water source right there.
7. Painting/staining of the Children’s Play House and playground equipment. – Completed by Panhandle Eastern & ITW Labels volunteers on 6/5/10.
8. Nature Education Stations – signs or boxes on stands that have names of and possibly information about nature, like pointing out types of trees and plants, or on types of wildlife, like various squirrels and birds.
9. Sensory Trail – One or more “stations” within a horseback riding or walking trail that allow for various sensory experiences; our equestrian team has some ideas for this.
10. Bird Viewing area – seating area with a view of birdhouses and feeders that attract birds; possibly combine with a nature education station about types of birds
11. Plan a Butterfly Garden that can become certified as a Monarch Watch Way Station – Completed by Baldwin City Gardening Connection, Panhandle Eastern and ITW Labels on 6/5/10. Funding provided by the Adam Webb Memorial Fund.
12. Add an additional butterfly garden that is closer to the Lodge where it will be accessible via a sidewalk that is planned to be put in. Possibly include a paver patio for 1 or 2 benches and a wooden nature education station that would include a chart showing different types of butterflies.
13. Planting other types of specialty gardens, such as a rose garden, or an herb garden, etc.

14. Wooden Horse – To be used in conjunction with therapeutic riding lessons for kids who have a fear of getting onto a horse
15. Water Garden – self-contained, for front entryway area, can have fish in it as well as water plants
16. Camp-site with permanent tent(s), fire pit and picnic area. – Connor Bize completed this for his Eagle project in May, 2010.
17. Development of hiking/wagon/riding trails around the property – especially with spreading tree chips or other trail covering on the trail and clearing tree limbs/brush away from the trail, as needed.

Ongoing Volunteering Needs

1. Therapeutic horseback riding volunteers for horse leaders and sidewalkers (no horse experience needed for sidewalkers and a training session is provided).
2. Gardening volunteers to help take care of gardens and landscaped areas, as well as possibly assisting with gardening and flower classes for persons with special needs.
3. Day Service Class Assistants needed to assist our Day Services Co. with brainstorming class ideas and preparing materials for classes, as well as assisting during classes to help persons with special needs fully participate in the class.
4. Barn volunteers, to help with cleaning alleyway, animal care and stall mucking, etc.
5. Lodge volunteers, to help with lodge cleaning and upkeep.
6. Office volunteers, to help with answering the phone and various office functions.
7. Community relations & support volunteers, to help spread the word about Midnight Farm and obtain needed support (volunteers, customers, donations, etc.)

Please contact Bonnie Bruns (bonniebruns@clockansas.org) or Yolanda Hargett (yolandahargett@clockansas.org) to pursue volunteer opportunities.

Midnight Farm's phone # is 785-979-1889.