

Field Mowing Volunteer

Job Description

The historic farm fields of the Port Oneida Rural Historic District are maintained by mowing the fields annually to prevent trees from growing in the fields and the forest from encroaching on the historic farm landscape. The National Park Service asks us to mow about 1,000 acres each year. Volunteer tractor drivers are needed to operate a tractor and 8-foot mower or a 16-foot mower. The Field Mowing Coordinator works with Park staff to make sure equipment is in good operating condition and volunteers are trained for safe operations of the equipment and protection of the Park's natural resources. The Coordinator sets the schedule for mowing – which fields, assigns volunteers, and makes sure that the fields are prepared for mowing. The Field Mower Volunteer does minor maintenance of the tractors and mowers and mows farm fields.

Required Experience

- Experience in operating and maintaining farm equipment or heavy excavating equipment.
- Communications skills – phone and e-mail

Required Training

Training and certification to operate the tractor and mower are provided by the National Park Service or the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes.

Time Commitment

Mowing season is July – September. Mowing Sessions average 4 hours. A volunteer may sign up for one or several mowing sessions per week.

Special mowing operations may be requested outside of typical mowing season. For example, mowing parking lots for the Port Oneida Fair or areas around historic buildings. These would have time commitments based on the specific project.