LIVE-IN CARETAKER / FARM ASSISTANT

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center, a 19th-century museum and working farm in Livermore, Maine, seeks a Live-In Caretaker. This is an unpaid, year-round position in exchange for housing in a 1-bedroom apartment, utilities included, on a beautiful tranquil 400-acre historic site. The position is ideal for someone interested in animal care, agriculture, park and resource management, history, and more. The caretaker is an integral member of the Norlands’ team.

Working an average of 18 hours per week, the Caretaker is primarily responsible for daily animal care, housekeeping duties, general buildings and grounds maintenance, seasonal farm chores, and the general care and safety of the overall site.

SPECIFIC DUTIES include but are not limited to the following:

- Monitoring site security by being onsite and observant, especially evenings, weekends, and when the site is closed, and monitors the function of the security and fire alarm systems. He/She regularly assesses that buildings are secure and performs weekly building checks, on a weekend day.
- Supporting the Historic Farm Manager by: feeding and watering animals twice daily; cleaning pens and stalls; grooming and medicating livestock when necessary; and assisting with seasonal farming duties, such as putting in hay, raking leaves, and weeding and harvesting the vegetable garden.
- Weekly housekeeping of all buildings and in preparation for and clean-up after school programs and special events, as program schedule demands. This includes sweeping and washing floors, removing rubbish, program/event laundry, and cleaning bathrooms and privies. Other seasonal cleaning and maintenance tasks may be assigned.
- Keeping walkways free of obstacles, including snow removal of all stairways and ramps.
- Light building maintenance, repair and painting.
- Welcoming visitors when site is closed and serving as host/hostess for periodic overnight guests in the farmer’s cottage.

The ideal candidate has experience with livestock, farming, maintenance and custodial responsibilities, and is meticulous and pays attention to detail. He/She must be able to lift 50 pounds on a daily basis, perform tasks such as climbing ladders, and pass a criminal background check.

TERMS: The position reports to the Executive Director and works cooperatively with the Farm Manager.

Compensation: Housing in a 5-room apartment (kitchen, living room, bedroom, office/study, bathroom) and utilities (heat, electricity, laundry, wi-fi) in exchange for an average of 18 hours labor per week. Restrictions on the use of the buildings/grounds apply. No pets or smoking allowed. Commitment: Seeking a commitment for one-year minimum.

HOW TO APPLY:

- Email cover letter, resume and contact information for three professional references to norlands@norlands.org.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, until position is filled.

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center is a living museum and working farmstead operating under methods of the 1800s. Our mission is to preserve the heritage and traditions of rural life in Maine’s past, to celebrate the achievements of Livermore’s Washburn family, and to use living history methods to make values, activities, and issues of the past relevant to present and future generations.