

Volunteering at Locust Grove Estate

Thank you for your interest in becoming a volunteer at Locust Grove! Volunteers play an essential role in our organization and there are several ways you can support our gardens and public programs.

Historic Gardens

Over a century ago, William and Martha Young employed a staff of six gardeners to maintain the grounds at Locust Grove. Today, many dedicated volunteers assist in maintaining the estate for the enjoyment of more than 60,000 annual visitors. Under the guidance of the horticulture staff, more than 50 volunteers work in the greenhouse, kitchen gardens, and flower gardens. Our expert staff provides direction and hands-on training each session that you can apply to your garden at home.

Kitchen Garden volunteers meet weekly on Thursdays from 9 am to 12 pm, March through November. No experience is necessary.

Ornamental Garden volunteers meet weekly on Thursdays from 9 am to 12 pm, March through November. No experience is necessary.

Public Programs

Sunset Sensations - A wine & food sampling series

April - December

On the second Thursday of the month from April through November, as well as two Thursdays in December, guests come to Locust Grove to enjoy a magnificent Hudson River sunset while sipping fine wines paired with culinary creations. Visitors are treated to cooking demonstrations by the featured chef of the month, wine pairing presentations, and a tour of the vegetable garden, our inspiration for the series.

On December Thursdays, guests tour the mansion decorated for the holidays.

Volunteers are needed from 4:30 to 8 pm to assist with registration and food service. Must be 21 years of age.

Antique Car Show

Second Sunday in July

Locust Grove hosts an annual show featuring over 300 antique cars on the lawns of the historic estate. The grounds are open to visitors from 8 am to 4 pm. Awards are given to the top cars from each of the decades represented in the show.

Volunteers are needed to assist with ticket sales and parking.

1st shift - 7:30 am to 12:00 pm 2nd shift – 11:30 am to 4:00 pm

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Fairy House Hunt

Weekends in May & June

Families are welcomed to Locust Grove on weekends to explore the gardens and find the fairy houses scattered throughout them.

Volunteers are needed prior to the first day of the Fairy House Hunt to make Fairy Houses to be placed in the gardens. Some crafting skills/experience preferred.

Harvest Hunt

Weekends in October

Families are welcomed to Locust Grove on weekends to enjoy a literary walk throughout the grounds illustrated with characters and scenes made from fall harvest vegetables.

Volunteers are needed prior to the first day of Harvest Hunt to make characters or scenes to be displayed throughout the grounds. Some crafting skills/experience preferred.

Holiday Hunt

December Sundays

Families are welcomed to Locust Grove on Sunday afternoons in December for a scavenger hunt through our historic mansion decorated for the holidays.

Volunteers are needed from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm to monitor a room in the mansion, share basic facts, and assist with the holiday hunt. All information will be supplied. No previous knowledge is required.

Please complete the following volunteer form and send it to Sarah Ruvo-Granata, Locust Grove, 2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, or office@lgny.org

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VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency contact person: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

Interested in volunteering in the gardens? Please indicate which day(s) you will join us.

_____ Tuesday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Ornamental gardens

_____ Thursday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Vegetable garden

Please be responsible for your own health when working as a volunteer in the gardens or at any of our events. If any work is too strenuous or uncomfortable, let us know and we will find another task for you. Please list any physical limitations you have that you think we should know about (allergies to bees or poison ivy, back or knee problems, etc.).

Interested in volunteering for public programs? Please check program(s) of interest:

_____ Sunset Sensations _____ Antique Car Show _____ Holiday Hunt

_____ Harvest Hunt _____ Fairy House Hunt

I acknowledge that I have read the Standards of Conduct and will abide by them to the best of my ability while representing Locust Grove Estate as a volunteer. I also acknowledge that I am an at-will volunteer and can be asked to stop volunteering at the discretion of the Locust Grove Staff.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Volunteer Standards of Conduct

The Young-Morse Historic Site's rules and standards of conduct are essential to a productive and safe environment for volunteers and patrons. As such, volunteers must familiarize themselves with, and be prepared to follow, The Young-Morse Historic Site's rules and standards.

While not intended to be an all-inclusive list, the examples below represent behavior that is considered unacceptable while volunteering and acting as a representative of Locust Grove Estate. Behaviors such as these, as well as other forms of misconduct, may result in becoming ineligible to participate as a volunteer in the future:

- Theft or inappropriate removal/possession of property
- Possession, distribution, sale, transfer, manufacture, or use of alcohol or illegal drugs on-site
- Fighting or threatening violence
- Ignoring directions from the Volunteer Supervisors
- Making maliciously false statements about other volunteers or employees
- Threatening, intimidating, coercing, or otherwise interfering with the performance of fellow volunteers or visitors
- Negligence or improper conduct leading to damage of company-owned or client-owned property.
- Violation of safety or health rules
- Smoking anywhere on-site, excluding the designated smoking area
- Sexual or other unlawful or unwelcome harassment
- Unauthorized use of telephones, computers, or other company-owned equipment.
- Unauthorized disclosure of any "business secrets" or other confidential or non-public proprietary information relating to The Young-Morse Historic Site's products, services, clients, or processes,

Other forms of misconduct not listed above may also result in disciplinary action, up to and including becoming ineligible to participate as a volunteer in the future. If you have questions regarding The Young-Morse Historic Site's standards of conduct, please direct them to your supervisor or the Office Administrator.