

Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum

Lighthouse Keeper Program – 2021

Thank you for your interest in the Keeper Program at the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum (GTLM). The following paragraphs describe the expectations and responsibilities of a lighthouse keeper. These guidelines have been established to ensure the smooth operation of the lighthouse during a very busy season as well as to ensure that everyone has a positive experience. **There is a fee for this program.** Please read the entire form carefully to be sure this program is right for you.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum is to preserve the site and to enhance the public's knowledge of the area's maritime heritage.

What is a Lighthouse Keeper?

The primary responsibilities of keepers are to greet and assist visitors and provide information about the lighthouse, museum, historic site and surrounding area. **Keepers must be energetic, comfortable speaking with the public, in excellent health, able to climb stairs and work 8 hours daily.**

In addition to providing visitors with an informative and educational experience, keepers are asked to maintain the facility by sweeping all areas, painting, removing trash, vacuuming and thoroughly cleaning the living quarters upon departure. Other duties include keeping the gift shop neat and restocked, as well as receiving and pricing the merchandise. Keepers are trained to operate the computerized cash registers in the gift shop and admissions area. Your presence at the lighthouse provides on-site security for this historic location.

Tours of Duty/Fees

Keepers may work for a period of one or two weeks. The cost is \$150.00 per week per person for new and returning keepers. Membership is not required, but we do encourage you to support the GTLM with an annual membership

The lighthouse and gift shop are open to the public during the following advertised times. Times are subject to change without notice.

10 am to 4 p.m.	May, Labor Day through November
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Memorial Day through Labor Day
5 to 8 pm (gift shop only)	Memorial Day to Labor Day. Keepers will staff one evening shift.

Those signing up for April, October and November will be more involved with cleaning, painting, minor repairs, inventory and other miscellaneous duties as well as opening and closing the museum and gift shop depending on the weather. Each Keeper gets one day off a week, either Monday or Tuesday. Everyone must be onsite Wednesday to do final cleaning of the Keeper apartment.

Everyone must be packed up and all personal items removed by 9 a.m. on Thursday morning. The apartment gets cleaned beginning at this time.

Orientation Program

All keepers will participate in our online orientation program. You will be contacted when that materials

are available online to view.

Living Quarters

Keepers live in the northern apartment of the lighthouse. The kitchen, living room and one bedroom are located on the first floor, with another bedroom and full bathroom on the second floor. Keepers share the bathroom and kitchen facilities with staff during open hours. All keepers share the living room and kitchen, and provide all of their own food. The quarters are well equipped with dishes, cooking utensils, appliances. Keepers provide their own sheets (twin bed), pillows, blankets, towels and wash cloths. The quarters are heated, but not air conditioned. Maximum occupancy of the living quarters is four people at any one time. We are not able to accommodate overnight guests. Remember that the living room and kitchen are a common area and you should be respectful of the other keepers staying in this space.

Rules and Regulations

The only access to the Lighthouse is through the Leelanau State Park. As a keeper, you will be given a Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum parking pass **upon arrival**. This pass allows you access into the park only during the time you are a keeper at the lighthouse.

The Grand Traverse Lighthouse is a state and national historic site. No smoking, open flames of any kind, alcoholic beverages or pets are permitted in or on the premises. Keepers are expected to be neat, well groomed and appropriately attired when on duty. Everyone must present themselves in the professional manner befitting hosts at an historic site.

A credit card will be required to be on file for incidentals. If the apartment is not left in the same condition as it was found, then a \$250 cleaning fee will be assessed.

Vehicle Access to the Lighthouse

One parking space for each keeper (or couple) is available in the designated lighthouse parking area with signs reading LIGHTHOUSE STAFF. Any camping or use of motor homes is permitted in the campgrounds only. Keepers are permitted to bring their vehicles up to the end of the sidewalk to unload and load their vehicles on Thursday morning **ONLY**. Cars may not be parked overnight near the lighthouse.

Application Procedures and Interviews

New applicants must complete, sign and return the attached application form. Plus the following:

1. A letter explaining why you want to be a Keeper and 2 personal letters of recommendation
2. A brief resume including your employment history and other experience.
3. A \$50 non-refundable application fee per person.
4. A telephone interview upon receipt of above items, once approved, the balance is due.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST SUBMIT THE APPLICATION AND APPLICATION FEE IN ORDER TO BE ADDED TO THE ON-LINE CALENDAR. WE ARE UNABLE TO HOLD WEEKS DUES TO THE CONTINUED NUMBER OF PEOPLE LOOKING FOR OPEN WEEKS.

Keeper Experience

There are few programs which offer the participants an opportunity to live for a week in an historic lighthouse. Working as a keeper is a very rewarding and educational experience - it is not a vacation. Keepers can, however, thoroughly enjoy the time they spend here making new friends, learning new things, and having lots of fun with the experience. The view, the sunsets from the tower and the

atmosphere are unforgettable, as well as the hiking trails and the many attractions of the region. The greatest benefit of working at Grand Traverse Lighthouse is the satisfaction of knowing that your efforts have contributed to the restoration and preservation of an irreplaceable part of Michigan's history.

Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum Lighthouse Keeper Program Application – 2021

Please list the names of the applicants. All lighthouse keepers must be 18 years of age or older. Applicants must be on site as keepers for the agreed length of the stay. Singles are welcome to apply. We will make every effort to fill all four spaces and fit singles into the schedule. Upon receipt of your completed application a telephone interview will be scheduled.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-Mail Address:** _____

Have you ever participated in a Keeper Program at another lighthouse? If so, which one(s)?

If individual applicants (or couples) wish to work together, each person or couple must submit a separate application, complete with resumes, references, etc. Please list below the names of other applicants with whom you would like to be scheduled.

Application Procedure

NEW KEEPERS

Both sides of the application plus the membership form must be filled out completely, signed and returned as soon as possible, accompanied by the items listed below.

- 1. A letter stating why you want to be a keeper.**
- 2. A brief resume listing your employment history and experiences you have had working with the public.**
- 3. Two personal letters of reference.**
- 4. A \$50 application fee per person. Balance due upon assignment. Total fee is \$150**

RETURNING KEEPERS

- 1. Completed/updated application.**
- 2. Keeper fee of \$150 per individual.**

Program Fee

The full program fee of \$150.00 per person per week. All fees are non-refundable. The Grand

Traverse Lighthouse Museum recommends you obtain travel insurance in case of unforeseen circumstances. *Rates are subject to change without prior notice.*

2021 Schedule of Keeper Weeks

Check all the weeks below that you are available to serve as a keeper for the 2021 season. The more dates you are available, the greater your opportunity for selection. Check the on-line calendar at (grandtraverselighthouse.com) or call for current availability. **Spaces cannot be held without an application and application fee.**

2021 Schedule of Keeper Weeks

April 1-8

April 8-15

April 15-22

April 22-29

April 29-May 6

May 6-13

May 13-20

May 20-27

May 27-June 3

June 3-10

June 10-17

June 17-24

June 24-July 1

July 1-8

July 8-15

July 15-22

July 22-29

July 29-Aug 5

Aug 5-12

August 12-19

August 22-26

August 26-Sept 2

Sept 2-9

Sept 9-16

Sept 16-23

Sept 23-30

Sept 30-Oct 7

Oct 7-14

Oct 14-21

Oct 21-28

Oct 28-Nov 4

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand this entire application, including the explanation of keepers' responsibilities and guidelines. I understand that there is no compensation for this position and also fully understand that, if accepted, I am agreeing to work at the lighthouse on the days and dates assigned to me for eight hours each day. I understand that some aspects of the responsibilities require vigorous health and the ability to deal with the public and handle unexpected emergencies. I further understand that duties include working daily in the gift shop, fog signal building, and museum admissions, and performing routine cleaning and maintenance. I agree to a personal telephone interview, to attend the orientation session if possible, and to work all hours assigned to me if I am selected to be a resident keeper. If I have any questions I will reach out to the staff for more info.

Signature _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Application MUST be signed. Both applicants must sign if applying as a couple.

Please mail to:

Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum

P.O. Box 43, Northport, MI 49670

Phone (231) 386-7195

Email: info@grandtraverselighthouse.com

Website: www.grandtraverselighthouse.com