

Kelley Farm Post

FRIENDS OF THE KELLEY FARM
SPRING 2017



The newly-updated Historic Oliver Kelley Farm opens for the season on Saturday, April 1st, 2017.

The Grand Opening Celebration is set for the weekend of May 6th & 7th.

No Fooling “New” Farm Opening April 1st! by Mac MacK

There's a new day coming at the Kelley Farm and it is right around the corner. It's a day we have all been waiting for—a day two years in the making.

On Saturday, April 1st (and this is no April Fool's joke) the Oliver Kelley Farm will open for the season, and it will be bigger and better than ever! It will, in essence, be two farms: the 1870s farm, and the new part, Farm Lab, that will show what farming has become and how farming has evolved into the 21st Century.

In April and May, as the staff and animals adapt to the new and old, the Farm will be open Saturdays and Sundays only. The Grand Opening event is scheduled for the weekend of May 6th and 7th.

We hope that everyone can come out to experience all parts of the Farm. All features of the Farm will be open, though some of the routine activities are weather-dependent, something that needs to be kept in mind.



The new Farm Lab at the Oliver Kelly Farm will invite visitors to immerse themselves in Minnesota agriculture and the important role it plays in our world.

Farm Lab

The newest part of the Farm, Farm Lab, is not a farm in and of itself, but an area of agricultural activity, experimentation and discovery. Composed of Farm Lab Crops, Farm Lab Garden, Farm Lab Barn, Machinery Hill, and a new exhibit called Food Trail designed to

explore USDA Food Guidelines, there are learning experiences available for children of all ages.

A primary goal of the Farm is to, ultimately, get younger kids interested in science and agriculture. Farm Lab was designed to reach slightly older kids and

parents with hopes that the message “Agriculture is Important” will be passed on to younger generations.

All ages will have opportunities to learn about Minnesota agriculture and the important role it plays in Minnesota's—and the world's—economies.



So Many Good Things to Do at The Farm

There are so many amazing events planned for the next few months that we're dedicating a big chunk of this newsletter to fill you in on the details so you don't miss a thing!



APRIL & MAY EVENTS

Bird House Building Workshop

Saturday, April 8th | 10am – 4pm

Cost is \$5. Advance reservations recommended.

Farm admission not included.

Birds are a valuable resource for gardeners and farmers aiding in insect control and pollination of plants. In this drop-in workshop, visitors can learn to build a birdhouse to take home. *All materials and tools are supplied. Children will need an adult helper to assist them.*

Egg-Stravaganza Cooking Workshop

Saturday, April 8th | 9am-11am

Cost is \$18 (\$16 for MNHS members). Registration required.

Farm admission not included.



Celebrate the official grand opening of the Kelley Farm's newest facilities, including the beautiful new visitor center, Learning Kitchen, outdoor exhibits, animal barn, modern gardens and cropland and more. Watch guest chef demos, plant a seed cup and make your own vinaigrette to take home, play 19th-century games, enjoy live music and food, and more farm-sized fun.



Discover new ways to use hard-boiled eggs—from salads to main dishes to canapés—in a hands-on workshop in the Oliver Kelley Farm's new Learning Kitchen.

Mothers' Day Weekend

May 13 + 14 | 10am – 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission

Free for MNHS members and mothers accompanied by a child

Explore the Kelley Farm as it springs to life on Mother's Day Weekend. Help plant seeds in the garden, harvest the first greens, meet the new baby animals as they try out their young legs and explore the new outdoor exhibit trails. And be sure to see what's cooking in the historic house kitchen and the new learning kitchen in the visitor center.

JUNE & JULY EVENTS

Farm Animal Weekend

June 3 + 4 | 10am - 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission. *Free for MNHS members*



Farm animals have always been and continue to be an important part of agriculture. Meet the animals and their offspring. Watch the farmers as they shear off the sheep's wool coats. Discover how farm animals were used and cared for in the 19th century, then meet modern animals and explore garden crops. Explore animal products cooked in the historic farm kitchen and in the new Learning Kitchen in the visitor center.

Fathers' Day Weekend...

June 17 + 18 | 10am - 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission

Free for MNHS members and fathers accompanied by a child

This Father's Day join the Kelley Farm staff as they work on typical 19th century farm chores, like building feed boxes, repairing fences, raking hay and caring for livestock. Then join in to help with some 21st century chores, meet modern livestock, explore modern crops and machinery and climb aboard a modern hay baler. Don't forget to stop by to sample sweets in the new learning kitchen. *Fathers are admitted free when accompanied by a child of any age.*

Site Admission is...

\$12 adults; \$10 seniors, veterans/active military and college students; \$6 ages 5-17, free age 4 and under and MNHS members

Dairy Days

June 24 + 25 | 10am - 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission/MNHS members free

Discover how farmers cared for their dairy cows in the mid-19th century versus today, and meet cows of 1860s stock and cows of 2017. Help make butter and cheese in the historic house kitchen and ice cream in the new Learning Kitchen.



Farmer's 4th of July

Tuesday, July 4 | 10am - 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission. *Free for MNHS members.*

Come celebrate the most important holiday of the mid-19th century with us, the Fourth of July. Visit the Kelley Farm to enjoy a day filled with 19th century games, races, picnicking and listening to an occasional example of oratorical excellence. Then participate in 21st century games, crafts and sample ice cream. Ride on the trolley along the nature trails. You should bring a picnic lunch and enjoy outdoor dining at one of the many picnic tales. A fun time will be had by all!

Children's Farm Chore Challenge Day 19th Century Farming

Saturday, July 22 | 10am - 5pm

Included with \$6-12 site admission. *Free for MNHS members.*

In the 19th century, farm children made huge contributions to the welfare of the family, and the same is true today. At the historic Kelley Farm, children can participate in the kinds of chores that kids did over 100 years ago. See who can load the most hay onto the wagon and how fast can they unload it, who can get the laundry scrubbed the cleanest and who can haul the most baskets of weeds out of the garden. After chores, try out some 19th century games or ride the trolley along the nature trails.



FRIENDS OF THE KELLEY FARM

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Get the latest and share
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Join the Friends of the Kelley Farm!

Are you feeling lost? Out of touch with the agricultural world? Lonely for the touch of a plow? Hungry for the smell of hay? Hankering to see an ox? Looking (and listening) for chickens every time you go outside? Join the Friends of the Kelley Farm and get one step closer to all the above!

The Friends group was formed to help preserve and support the Kelley Farm operation. We raise funds to promote Kelley Farm activities in the community and support Farm programs through volunteer efforts and funds.

Beyond the sheer joy of helping the farm in an indirect manner, a single membership (of \$24) receives one free household entry to the Farm, a 10%

discount in the Gift Shop, voting rights, special event invitations, and newsletters. Family membership receives all that plus an additional pass, coupon, and vote!

Join today! Simply send a check to: Friends of the Kelley Farm, 15788 Kelley Farm Road, Elk River MN 55330. You'll start feeling better almost immediately!

T-Shirts...

If you're really hoping to get in the spirit of the Kelley Farm and becoming a member isn't enough, you might be able to make your biggest Farm wish come true with the purchase of a Friends of the Kelley Farm T-shirt. Yes, you too can own your very own Friends of the Kelley Farm T-shirt! Wear



when you're visiting the Farm, wear it when you're volunteering! Or wear it around the house. Any time you wear it you'll be showing your care and support for the Kelley Farm, and that's the important thing! For just \$25 you can support

the Friends, support the Farm, and have a great shirt to wear to the store.

Send your check to: Friends of the Kelley Farm, 15788 Kelley Farm Road, Elk River MN 55330 and we'll get it ordered pretty darn quick!