

# Volunteers

## PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

### Lubbock Lake Landmark Regional Research Program Information Guide May 31st – August 23rd, 2026

Research at the Lubbock Lake Landmark and regional locations primarily involves the disciplines of archaeology, paleontology, and geology. Participants are introduced to these disciplines both in field and lab work. Please keep in mind that this is a field program and not a field school. Volunteers are required to participate for a minimum six-week period (one complete session) but are welcome to stay for the whole season. Two arrival dates are possible: May 31st and July 12th, 2026. **Your joining the field crew is a commitment to stay for the entire 6-week session.** Target dates for completed applications are May 9th for the first session and June 20th for the second session.

**Acceptance into the regional research program is for the program and not a specific location. Field crew assignments are made during orientation on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each session and are based on a number of factors in balancing field needs and funding commitments with a volunteer's interest.**

Dr. Eileen Johnson directs the regional research work at the Landmark and other locations. At the Landmark, she is on-site to observe progress, discuss problems, give instructions and guidance, and generally oversee the excavations and camp logistics. She also visits the regional research locations on a weekly basis. Her responsibilities and duties, however, are split between the Heritage and Museum Sciences department, Museum, the public aspects of the Landmark, and the regional research. Volunteers are supervised directly by Dr. Stance Hurst (LLL Field Manager). He is assisted by Lila Jones (LLL Field Supervisor) and the assigned Crew Chief or Lab Assistant responsible for the day-to-day field or lab operations in their area or survey plot.

The work day is from 6:45 AM to 4:30 PM. In addition to excavation and lab work, all crew members are assigned cooking and kitchen duties and other camp chores. On days off, food supplies are provided, and each crew member is responsible for cooking his/her own meals and cleaning up. Field funds are limited, so while we strive to provide a balanced and nutritious menu and accommodate vegetarian diets, items such as milk are provided at only one meal a day. Vegan diets cannot be accommodated at this time. Meals include breakfast, midmorning snack, lunch, mid-afternoon snack, and dinner. A crew refrigerator is available for non-supplied items.

At the Landmark, prefab cabins are the living quarters. Cots are provided, and electricity, air-conditioners, ceiling fans, and small refrigerators are available in each cabin. Each cabin houses up to 8-10 people. The kitchen is in a window-unit

air-conditioned building with electricity, hot and cold running water, refrigerators, freezers, and stoves. The eating area is a covered breezeway that has large sinks with running water for participants to use. Hot (most of the time) and cold running water is available in the showers. Indoor flushing toilets also are available in the camp. Despite these amenities, the camp is a primitive one. Sanitation and health considerations are priority concerns under the sometimes crowded conditions. KP duties and daily cleaning assignments are taken seriously, and crew members must act responsibly and accordingly. The Quaternary Research Center is air-conditioned, but security reasons and Museum policy do not allow it to be used after-hours for personal business.

The Post camp is a ranch outbuilding (2-room barn) that has electricity and is airconditioned. Bunk beds are set up in the back room. A kitchen and dining area are in the front room. The kitchen has a stove, refrigerator, freezer, and cupboards. Water is trucked in, and a system is set up for water to showers and a sink. Water has to be heated to wash dishes. Clean, maintained port-a-potties are available.

All health and food safety rules of the Landmark and Texas Tech University apply to the kitchens and other facilities in the regional field camps. All other rules and policies of the Landmark, Museum, and Texas Tech University apply as well, such as no alcohol or illegal drugs anywhere on the various properties and no smoking in the buildings or at the excavation area.

The Lubbock Lake Landmark has wireless internet service and normal cell phone reception. **Please be aware**, however, that the regional research locations are in rural, remote areas. The Post field camp does not have internet service (wireless or otherwise). Cell phone reception is spotty at best.

Lubbock is a metropolitan area of about 275,000 people located on the plains of western Texas in the middle of primarily agricultural land. It services a wide rural area (about a 200-mile/320-km diameter area). Most city services are very good, but public transportation is limited. The Landmark is located about 2.5 miles (2.8km) from the Museum and Texas Tech University and is at the outskirts of the city. It is not serviced by public transportation. After-hours transportation and transportation needs for personal reasons are the volunteer's responsibility, not that of the Landmark. Travel to other major cities takes at least a day's drive. Lubbock is serviced by three airlines: American Airlines through the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport; Southwest Airlines through Love Field in Dallas; and United Airlines through Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston. During the summer, the typical weather is hot (95°-105°F), dry, and dusty during the day, cooling off after midnight to sometimes quite chilly (40°- 45°F) in the early morning hours. Summer rains can cause flooding in the excavation areas, cooler, humid days, and cold, damp nights.

The following is a list of required equipment. These items can be purchased as a kit if you cannot locate the material before you come. Items in the kit purchased from the Lubbock Lake Landmark cannot be purchased separately nor borrowed for the

summer. You must have these items before you can participate in the fieldwork. If you volunteer in the field lab, the excavation kit is unnecessary. These materials cannot be borrowed from the Landmark but must be supplied by you. If you do not want to purchase a kit, these items can be found in Lubbock at various stores.

1. Mason's pointed trowel (e.g., Marshalltown or W.H.S. brand), 3-5" (maximum length); a square trowel of the same brand and size can be useful at times also. Please note that a gardening-type trowel is not acceptable!
2. K and E, Lufkin, or Stanley brand 3-meter retractable tape measure (only the metric system is used at the Landmark).
3. 2-4 black permanent ink pens.
4. 4-6 #2.5 (or HB) black lead pencils with erasers.
5. Clipboard.
6. 30cm ruler (12" ruler also marked in cm acceptable).
7. 3-5 paint brushes of varying sizes.
8. Assorted small wooden and/or bamboo tools and picks (metal picks are not used as they can damage the artifacts, particularly bone).

The following are some personal items you need to bring along:

1. Sleeping bag or blankets (nights can get down to 40° - 45°F)
2. Field clothes, including hat, jackets, jeans, work gloves, sturdy work shoes, and a poncho for rain
3. Towels and toiletries
4. Personal medication
5. Flashlight and batteries,
6. Electronic devices or radio, headphones, and batteries
7. Sunglasses, sun lotion, insect repellent
8. First Aid kit (general kit available at excavation areas and in camps)

**Upon provisional acceptance**, certain health requirements are necessary before a volunteer receives final confirmation of acceptance and is allowed to join the summer crew.

1. The volunteer must carry his/her own health and accident insurance for the duration of the field season;
2. The volunteer must have a current tetanus shot;
3. The volunteer must have current physical medical exam using the Landmark's form.

**PROOF OF THESE MUST BE SENT TO DR. JOHNSON BEFORE ARRIVAL IN LUBBOCK OR YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM OR ALLOWED INTO CAMP AT THE LUBBOCK LAKE LANDMARK.**

Your mailing address while here will be:

Your Name Lubbock Lake Landmark Museum of Texas Tech University Box 43191  
Lubbock, Texas, 79409-3191, USA.

The Landmark Quaternary Research Center's telephone number is 806-742-1117 and it is answered in the summer from 7:00AM to 4:30PM Texas (Central) Time. The Interpretive Center's telephone number is 806-742-1116, and it is answered Monday through Saturday from 8:00AM to 5:00PM and Sunday 1-5 PM Central Time. If an **emergency** exists, people can call you at either of these numbers if you do not have a cell phone. Otherwise, personal calls should be restricted to after hours.

To reach Dr. Johnson between September and early May, use the telephone number for the Museum office, at 806-742-2442. It is answered 8:00AM to 5:00PM Central Time, Monday through Friday, and has an answering machine for call backs.

**Dr. Johnson's e-mail address is: [eileen.johnson@ttu.edu](mailto:eileen.johnson@ttu.edu) The Landmark's office e-mail address is: [lubbock.lake@ttu.edu](mailto:lubbock.lake@ttu.edu)**

The Lubbock Lake Landmark, as part of Texas Tech University, is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from gender and/or sex discrimination of any kind. Sexual assault, discrimination, harassment, and other Title IX violations are not tolerated by the University or the Landmark.

Report any incidents to Texas Tech's Title IX office by filing a report online <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/titleix/students/Report> or by contacting the administration directly at (806) 834 1949.