

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for **Fort Dalles Museum**. We look forward to partnerships with volunteers to enable us to effectively serve the citizens of our community. Thank you for volunteering.

Please complete the following information. It can be mailed to us or brought to the museum during business hours.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special Skills, Training, or Knowledge:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in volunteering as:

- Docent
- Office
- Landscaping
- Special Events
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



The glory days of Fort Dalles were brief. The Civil War removed most Federal troops, and by its close the tide of Indian warfare had moved east and south. In the 1860s the fort became mainly a stopping place for state militia. River trade became less important with the expansion of regional railroads.

The beautiful officers houses burned one by one — they apparently suffered from faulty mortar in the chimneys — and were not replaced. Only the Surgeon’s Quarters, along with barracks and various other buildings remained. The fort became inactive in 1867. An army caretaker remained until about 1884, when the land was turned over to the city and the surviving buildings left to squatters and the elements.

A group of civic-minded pioneer women were instrumental in saving the building at the turn of the century. Through an act of Congress it became the property of the Oregon Historical Society, which authorized the ladies of the “Old Fort Dalles Historical Society” to open it as a museum in 1905. Since the early 1950s it has operated under the management of a City/County Museum Commission.

Almost all traces of the building’s military past were gone long before the museum opened, but it became a repository for city and county history. Native American artifacts, pioneer tools and housewares, Umatilla House Hotel artifacts, clothing, furniture, and many historical photographs help preserve the area’s heritage.

Another attraction is the collection of historic vehicles; both horse– and motor-powered. In the 1970s, a collection of hand-hewn log buildings, part of a Swedish emigrant community established on Pleasant Ridge south of The Dalles in the 1880s, was donated to the museum complex. The Anderson House, Barn, and Granary now offer a glimpse into life on a family farm 100 years ago.

 We’re Searching for Volunteers!



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FortDallesMuseum@gmail.com  
www.FortDallesMuseum.org



- **Do you have some free time to give back to your community?** We need you!
- **Do you enjoy meeting new people?** You can do that on a daily basis!
- **Are you interested in learning more about local history?** We can teach you!
- **Are you an antique vehicle fan who could give tours?** We have the vehicles!
- **Love gardening and could help with the grounds?** We have lots of ground to cover!
- **Have an agriculture background?** We have a Pioneer home, granary, and a barn!
- **Have office and computer skills!** We have projects available behind the scenes!
- **Can you help with Special Events or Children's Activities?** We need special people!
- **Local history buff who likes to share your knowledge?** We have the visitors!

If the idea of Volunteering at one of Oregon's oldest history museums right here in The Dalles is something that you have thought about, here's your chance to help us! We are looking for Volunteers who have a few hours a week or a month or even occasionally during the year who would be willing to help out at the museum.

All you need is the time. We will provide the training in how the museum operates, information on our history, etc.

New Volunteers will be matched with our more experienced Volunteers so that you won't be on your own in the beginning so you'll feel comfortable.

If you are interested in Volunteering, please contact the museum by phone or stop by during museum hours. We'd love to speak with you!

We have a Volunteer Application to fill out so that we have an idea of your interests and availability. It's just that easy!