

**AUTUMN ON THE FARMS AT OLD WORLD WISCONSIN
OCTOBER 11-12, 2008**

Here are some of the 19th-century autumn farm activities visitors can expect to experience and help with during the first weekend of Old World Wisconsin's Autumn on the Farms.

Please note: all activities are subject to staffing availability.

On the Visitor Center Mall (at the entrance to the site)

Farmers' and Artisans' Markets: browse a wide variety of handmade goods and crafts.
Weston's Antique Apples: taste the difference in heirloom apples for yourself — take home some from local grower, Ken Weston.
Heirloom Vegetable Sale: choose from a variety of heirloom veggies grown and harvested at Old World Wisconsin.
Author Jerry Apps: will sell and sign copies of his many books on rural Wisconsin, including his latest, "Old Farm: A History," from 2 p.m. to close on Sunday.

Ramsey Barn/Museum Store

Lower Level Auditorium: view a 12-minute video on the Great Peshtigo Fire , the largest and deadliest fire in United States history — an inferno in northeastern Wisconsin that occurred on the same autumn night as the Great Chicago Fire, October 8, 1871, and claimed five times as many victims. After witnessing this video, you'll have greater understanding of the context for the drama which unfolds in the Peterson Wagon Shop: "The Great Peshtigo Fire: Survivors' Stories," depicting the impact on three individuals.

Caldwell Farmers' Club Hall Educational Center

Mattress Ticking: stuff a mattress tick as farm wives did in the 19th century.
Historic Games: play hoops-and-sticks, graces and other 19th-century games.
Caldwell Animal Program: get up-close and personal with historic farm animal breeds.
Rug Braiding Demonstration: see how it's done, turning scraps of wool into works of art.

1870s Crossroads Village

Building	Activity
Harmony Town Hall	Display of vintage survey equipment. Sunday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.: join in a discussion with Marty Perkins, Old World Wisconsin curator of research, learn to read and interpret the everyday landscape of Wisconsin and understand the forces that shaped Wisconsin's system of land organization.
Four Mile Inn	Drying pumpkins: learn how this was done and how the byproduct was used throughout the winter.
Sisel House Kitchen	Learn how lard was rendered and what it was used for.
Benson House	Join in preparing time-honored fall recipes .
Grotelueschen Blacksmith Shop	Stop in to see the white-hot blacksmithing demonstrations .
Thomas General Store	See the display of winter goods available for settlers to purchase.
Peterson Wagon Shop	"The Great Peshtigo Fire: Survivors' Stories": this 18-minute drama takes place each day at 10:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 2:30 p.m., and 3:45 p.m. Limited seating. Free.

1870s Crossroads Village (cont'd.)

Hafford House	Help mix lye and fat together to create the soap used for everything from bathing to washing dishes.
St. Peter's Church	Try your hand at quilting , turning scrap fabric into useful and beautiful creations.
Throughout the site:	Watch the muscular oxen driven with expert precision by our farmer, to assist in the work.

German/Polish Area

Location	Activity
German Area	Watch the many teams of powerful draft horses as they help the farmers plow and plant in preparation for the next growing season.
Koepsell/Schulz Field	See the buzz saw in action with the power of the McCormick-Deering 1020 tractor , as it cuts firewood for the winter.
Schottler Summer Kitchen	See how sausage is made by hand, or how meat is smoked to preserve it.
Schulz House	Help grate the root of the horseradish into a delectable condiment, if you dare.
Koepsell House	Watch as the noon dinner for the farmers is made (Saturday), or how the leftovers are prepared (Sunday).
Koepsell House Porch	Sniff the cider vinegar barrel and see what goes into making vinegar.

Norwegian Area

Building	Activity
Fossebrekke House	Help scrape the deer hide for a lap robe to use on the sleigh in the winter.
Kvaale House Porch	See the wool fiber from our sheep as it is spun into yarn .
Kvaale Summer Kitchen	Learn which plants produce which colors in our wool dyeing demonstration .
Raspberry Schoolhouse	Participate in the start of fall school lessons , as kids (and adults!) of all ages join in.

Finn-Dane Area

Building	Activity
Ketola House	See the farm wife pluck and butcher poultry , with a use for every part (Saturday), or cook poultry using old-fashioned methods (Sunday).
Rankinen House	Join the farm wife digging rutabagas, turnips, potatoes, carrots, beets, onions and cabbage — the Rankinen farm has them all! (Saturday only). Help cultivate the garden to prep it for next year's planting (Sunday only).
Pedersen House	See the year's apple crop pressed into cider .