Archaeology Volunteer FAQ’s

• What do the archaeology volunteers do?
  Volunteers assist the site archaeologist with excavation and finds processing. In the summer and fall, we’ll work on excavation – digging on the historic grounds and carefully documenting the artifacts and features we find. In the winter and spring, we will work in the archaeology lab to clean, sort, and label the finds.

• Do volunteers need any experience in archaeology?
  No experience required! Red Hill archaeologists will provide direction to volunteers.

• Are there age requirements for volunteers?
  We welcome volunteers of all ages! Those under 16 need to be accompanied by an adult.

• When can I volunteer?
  Volunteers can choose when and how often they want to help, whether it’s a single day or on a weekly basis. Available volunteer dates can be viewed on the archaeology schedule at www.redhill.org/archaeology. New volunteers will need to arrive at 10 am on their selected date to get oriented and can help for any length of time, up until 4 pm. Returning volunteers may help at any time between 10 am and 4 pm, for any length of time.

• How do I sign up?
  o To dig in the summer/fall: Fill out the Acknowledgement of Risk and Release at www.redhill.org/archaeology/ and email a scanned copy to lucia@redhill.org along with the upcoming date(s) that you would like to volunteer. Please let us know when you’re coming at least one day in advance.
To help in the lab in the winter: Email lucia@redhill.org with the upcoming date(s) you’d like to volunteer. Please let us know when you’re coming at least one day in advance.

- What do I need to bring when I volunteer?
  For summer and fall fieldwork, please plan to wear close-toed shoes and weather-appropriate clothing that you don’t mind getting dirty. We recommend bringing gardening gloves, a hat, water, sunscreen, bug spray, snacks and/or a packed lunch. Red Hill will provide all archaeological equipment, as well as extra bottled waters.

  For winter lab work, just bring yourself! If you plan to be here during lunchtime, you’re welcome to bring a lunch or snacks.

- What else do I need to know?
  Fieldwork will take place outdoors in the summer and fall, under a tent for shade. Helping with excavation requires movements such as crouching, bending, and sometimes lifting.

  Lab work will take place in Red Hill’s archaeology lab, located in the basement of the Administrative & Research Center at 860 Red Hill Rd.

  In the case of inclement weather, fieldwork that day will be canceled.

  Red Hill is in a rural location, so cell phone service may be patchy at the excavation site and there may not be wi-fi. The Visitor Center has wi-fi and is within walking distance from the excavation site.