

**CHOP WOOD, CARRY WATER:
A LO-FI, LAND-BASED RESIDENCY FOR MAKERS, THINKERS,
COLLABORATORS**

2021 was a fruitful and generative first year for Chop Wood Carry Water.

~The practice of collaborating with land continues~

This is not an art residency. We do not expect you to be an artist. We are interested in a larger definition of what it means to think, make, build and collaborate with land, other humans and living beings. We believe edges and categories of what it means to be creative and how we live in this world are meant to be explored and that this is essential for a new coming together within ourselves and between ourselves.

Conversation, moving, studying, walking, biking, kayaking, writing, reading, furniture making, weaving, print making, performing, filming, painting, building, on-site installation, sculpture, ceramics, animation, soil work, dancing, experimentation with and processing of land-based materials have figured largely with past residents.

****Infrastructure added for 2022****

- + Shared writing studio for up to two writers
- + Two new rustic studios in barn
- + Field station (large tent) and third firepit and circle in 'Enokiland' far northern field

Also new

- + longer residency stays of 10-14 dates incentivized by 15% residency discount and stays of 14-21 days by 20% residency discount

- + The Rex Abandon Fund supports several partial scholarships/season (75% of residency costs, scroll down to 'residence fees' for more information).

THE DRIFTLESS REGION + HOCHUNK LAND

Chop Wood Carry Water is on the ancestral land of the HoChunk.

Chop Wood, Carry Water is hosted at Pachamanka in the Driftless Region of NW Illinois. CWCW and Pachamanka is specifically in unincorporated Buckeye Township located 12 miles north of Freeport, Illinois, 12 miles south of Monroe, Wisconsin.

The Driftless Region refers to the geological time of hundreds or millions of years ago. The Driftless does not have a history of glaciation and escaped the resulting scraping and depositing of retreating ice. It is hilly, with limestone ridges holding skims of soils and lowlands that have deep rich alluvial deposits. There are remnant prairies and small woodlands through the area. There are many rivers and streams. The Mother Mississippi and its bluffs and cliffs are 45 minutes west. The 200+ mile Pecatonica River that connects with the Rock River runs nearby. This area is an important flyover for many songbirds and an ancient lineage of sandhill cranes make this their seasonal home.

This area is now farmed with industrial agricultural corn and soy. Industrial and small dairy operations exist along side of extensive natural areas and small ecologically oriented farms growing vegetables and raising eggs, meat, dairy and wool animals. There is no large city center and the area has many small towns. The small cities of Madison, Wisconsin and Rockford, Illinois are both 45 minutes away.

The Jane Adams Trail is a good biking and walking/running trail about 1/2 mile from the Badger Trail that runs all the way north to Madison and then connects further to Baraboo, Wisconsin home of the International Crane Foundation and The Circus World Museum.

There is a small local wood mill, a stone quarry, a local wool mill, a zen center, fresh farm eggs, meat and vegetables as well as two weekend farmer markets all within 20 minutes drive. A traditional tannery and a clay mill are 40 minutes away. Madison Wisconsin is just under an hour drive.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Nights are quiet, the faintest stars visible.

There are a lot of wild animals that share this land and you are likely to see and hear them both during the day and hear them at night. Owls, raptors, songbirds, waterfowl, cranes, pheasants, wild turkeys, deer, opossums, raccoons, weasels, otters, minks, coyotes and perhaps others are around.

The host has two friendly dogs and three cats that spend time outside and will likely interact with you.

There is an arrival dinner prepared by the host on the first night of the residency.

A mid-week studio/site visit and end of residency sharing is encouraged but not required. These build towards understanding and community amongst residents.

LO-FI + LAND-BASED

Most places in the world are 'connected' via wi-fi and all that bustles about urban living. Lo-Fi is uniquely generous in its slowness and quietness so you can re-orient yourself to yourself and practice.

Working in landscape and with land is encouraged.

Only up to 5 people will be in residency/week. This lo-fi, lo-volume residency allows for physical distancing as well as the space for people to choose interaction when desired. A small community of others allows feedback and interaction without it being too socially distracting to focus on your practice at hand.

Accommodations are in the great outdoors. There is an indoor shared barn kitchen, a shared lounge in the upper barn, a dry toilet, low water sinks, outdoor solar bag showering, two fire pits, a cob outdoor oven and a cordwood sauna.

Buildings communicate with the elements as well as resident bats and other incidental animal neighbors.

There is no broadband internet available and you will need to have a hot spot. Cell phone connection can be spotty. This is the reality of geography and geology of the Driftless Region. Reliable open internet is found at local libraries and Farm and Fleet stores in either Monroe, Wisconsin and Freeport, Illinois both 20 minutes drive away.

GIVING BACK TO THE LAND Connection and relationship happens when living with land. In recognition and to honor this giving back is a way for residents to understand and participate in this implicit collaboration. Giving back also reduces cost of the residency and helps the host maintain the systems in place. The energy exchange expected by each resident depends on length of residency and is generally 5 hours/week. Individuals will set up their Giving Back times with your host ahead of arrival.

LIVING ELEMENTS + GROWING SYSTEMS ~Creating, restoring and supporting healthy habitat is the central guiding principle of the host~

There is a 4.5 acre restored prairie, a 4 acre woodlot and 40 acres of various wooded areas and grassy areas, a large pond, as well as a creek that runs the entire east side of the land.

The Big Barn houses equipment and machines, a small wood shop and the shared kitchen.

The Bat Barn houses the studios, the Earthstar lounge, fire wood, bee equipment, and bobwhite quail.

There are three fire pits, a wood fired outdoor cob oven, and a cordwood, wood-fired sauna. There are hammocks to lounge in and a 64'sq wooden platform in the prairie for stargazing, writing and

There are several small areas of fruit and nut trees, outdoor mushroom cultivation, hoop house, vermiculture, honey bee hives, bobwhite quail and cayuga ducks. Agroecological growing

methods are used with a concentration on perennial food and medicines. The kitchen garden grows heirloom seed for indigenous and on-site seed libraries.

Composting of all organic waste and recycling is practiced.

EARTHSTAR LOUNGE

Located in the upper barn. The Earthstar is carpeted and is a good place to spend evenings and rainy days when not out and about or in the woodshed or studio. It is a shared space and has floor pillows, yoga mats and freeweights as well as a small library of books: animal, plant and fungi identification guides, ecological design and thinking, herbalism, gardening, poetry and more.

SHARED BARN KITCHEN

The kitchen is shared by all residents. You will need to bring your own food. However, cooking oils, sugar, salt, pepper and some basic spices, heirloom dried beans, loose herbs for teas are made available as well. Many varieties of wild greens are easily forageable. A small market is 5 minutes away and large grocery stores are 20 minute drive away.

There is no hunting, fishing or trapping allowed on the property.

There is a refrigerator and boxes for dry storage of foods to protect from critters. There is a cooking preparation surface, a propane camping stove, toaster and a mini refrigerator to share with other residents. Cooking vessels and cooking utensils, french presses for coffee, as well as silverware, plates, bowls, cups and mugs are provided. Cooking over a campfire is an option. There is a cob oven that can be used if arranged with the host for making bread and pizzas.

ECOSANITATION + SOLAR BAG SHOWERS~ *Your waste and greywater builds soil microbial life! Residents participate in completing the cycling of their nutrients~*

Low water, foot pump sinks are used requiring water hauling by residents. The outhouse houses a dry toilet which contents which are thermophillically composted.

A dishwashing station is set up outside the kitchen to wash and rinse dishes and utensils. Bio-compatible dish soap, scrubby and rags are provided. Greywater from sinks is deposited into the woods once dirty by residents .

Solar bag showers holding several gallons of water are heated passively by the sun and then hung and used for showering. Because our greywater feeds the soil directly, other body products are discouraged if they are not biologically degradable or biocompatible.

RESIDENCY FEES

5% of the fees collected for the residency will be put into the Rex Abandon fund to help support potential residents who find the costs difficult to meet. If you would like to contribute more to this fund, please communicate this and the amount you wish to support to your host.

7 day residencies \$55/day/person

10-14 day residencies - 15% discount off of total (\$46.75/day/person)

14-21 day residencies - 20% discount off of total (\$44.00/day/person)

Each resident has access to an indoor studio and is encouraged to explore, create and work outdoors within the 50 acres.

STUDIOS

Rustic studios measuring approx 125'sq with concrete floors are located in the Bat Barn.

Studios are equipped with electricity. Folding tables and chairs are available.

TOOLS AVAILABLE FOR USE

Circular saw, chop saw, drill, sawzall, circular sander, wrenches, screwdrivers, hammers, mallets, ratchet set, pliers, tin snips, shovels, spades, trowels, hand saws, chain saw, hatchet, axe, drawknives, wheelbarrows, sewing machines, steel open kiln for pit firing.

Many bicycles are available for resident use.

BOATS + SAUNA USE

A canoe and two kayaks are available to rent by the day for \$45/boat (this includes put in and take out by host). The Pecatonica River runs close by with the nearest put in 15 minutes drive away.

Cordwood sauna can be fired for a 2 hour session for \$40.

