

WOODLAND HARVEST FARM NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S NEXT?

We are going to finish the roofing of the Octagon. We will also start light straw clay insulation and roofing in the Crone's Cottage. On a non-work related note, we are hoping to have a fun Halloween celebration as a community!

We are moving on to the final stage of the Octagon and making good progress on the other buildings. For the Octagon, we finished putting light straw clay insulation in every wall. This natural building technique is eco-friendly and cheap and involves mixing clay slip with straw and packing it in wall sections. In the last few days, we also attached the ridgebeam, girders, and all the rafters for the Octagon roof and will start putting on roofing boards and the top layer (metal sheets, shingles, etc.) soon afterwards. We have also put down joists and some sub-flooring for the Bumpout of the Octagon. The Crone's Cottage has all of its walls up and the Tiny House has all its posts in and tamped.

We have been experimenting and refining work flow and organization as a group. The organic chore chart has had challenges with distributing different types of work but we have been openly communicating with each other and stepping out of comfort zones to do jobs that need to be done. We also refined our process of meal planning and we create a list of work availability at the start of the week which has helped a lot with communication. Every night we come up with the priorities for building and pick what the morning crew will start on based on the number of people available and priorities. We have gotten into a really good work flow groove.

Two weekends ago we welcomed a new member to our group, Bozena. She has carpentering experience and is a great banjo/fiddle player. Its great to have experienced hands helping and we have had many a music night recently!



PUMPKINS

We got a bunch of free pumpkins from a local farm that were not going to be used. With those pumpkins we have carved a couple for decoration, made 14 pumpkin pies, made a pumpkin roll, and we even learned how to make and preserve a large quantity of pumpkin butter!

ANIMALS!

We rescued four kittens and a mama cat this past week and it has lightened up the community. We are still debating if having the kittens improves productivity on the worksite or not. We find that more people stay at the worksite and are happier, but are they just cuddling and playing with the kittens instead of working?

BACKPACKING

Some of us have been going backpacking to enjoy the fall colors. This was the first time backpacking for many and it was an adventure for sure! There were ladders and steep rock climbs throughout the journey. As if that wasn't a challenge enough, there was a rainstorm that made everything slippery. Also no stove = crunchy ramen time!



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