

WAYSIDE CABIN ACTIVITIES

“The Little House in the Big Woods” (7 miles north of Pepin on County CC)

Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM and Sunday 11 AM – 4 PM

Come visit the “Little House in the Big Woods” during Laura Ingalls Wilder Days. Each year, hundreds of guests visit the reconstructed cabin on the land where Laura was born in 1867. The cabin is maintained by the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society of Pepin. During the festival, the cabin is decorated with quilts and period items. The Wayside Cabin Activities (formerly known as “Wayside Cabin Quilt Sew and Show”) originated in 2005; it is handicapped accessible. Please be aware that there is no electricity and no running water on the site; however, there are restroom facilities on the property. A shuttle bus runs from the Main Park in Pepin on Saturday afternoons to the cabin. The activities are coordinated by Julie Frances Miller with help from *many* volunteers.

Children and adults are welcome to participate in the activities listed below (subject to change):

- Hear a story about the Ingalls’ wagon trip from the cabin to Pepin, told through quilt blocks.
Learn the names of quilt blocks and play the guessing game at the end to win a prize.
- Design your own 9 Patch quilt block to take home, made with fabric, paper, and glue
- Make a quilt pattern using tiny colored triangle magnets
- Look around at the quilts and items in the cabin displayed
(volunteers are available to answer all your questions)
- Look at and read through the materials inside of the display board
- Meet “Jack” and “Black Susan”, the Ingalls’ pets (stuffed animals children may pet)
- Learn how to hand sew your own 4 Patch quilt block to take home using squares of fabric,
just as Laura and Mary did (located at the shelter outside of the cabin)
- Weave a string around the holes to complete the wooden sewing cards
- Learn to play with the hoop-and-stick (all three ways!)
- Try to walk on stilts and learn to play “Little Graces”
- Try out small pioneer toys, including cup-and-ball, Jacob’s ladder, yo-yo’s, spinning tops, and more
- Build your own log cabin with some Lincoln Logs
- Play the Clothespin Drop game
- Listen to pioneer music (outside from musician Sue West, and inside listen to CD’s).
Visitors of all ages are welcome to play their own fiddle inside of the cabin, just as Pa did!
- Read the historical sign (located outside by the parking area)
- Take a family picture in front of the cabin, or pictures inside the cabin
- Wear pioneer clothes! We have many visitors in costume
(bonnets, straw hats, pioneer dresses, aprons, suspenders, etc.)

THERE IS MUCH TO DO AT “THE LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS”