



St. Charles County Government

Department of Parks and Recreation
Bettie Yahn-Kramer, Director

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Learn the Art of Blacksmithing, Woodworking and Apple Butter Making at Towne Park

St. Charles County, Missouri - Join the St. Charles County Parks Department for an afternoon of FREE fall festivities at the historic 1830s homestead at Towne Park, 100 Towne Park Dr., off Highway 61 near Wentzville. Park guests can explore the art of blacksmithing, the craft of woodworking and experience a 19th century fall harvest picnic at two upcoming scheduled demonstrations in the park. The former “Pink Plantation” homestead will also be open for tours.

On Saturday, Sept. 15, blacksmithing expert Ken Jensen of Butcher Creek Forge in Moscow Mills will be demonstrating metal working from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Learn a variety of blacksmithing techniques while watching Ken make useful metal objects and forged items. Also learn about 19th century woodworking while craftsmen shape pieces of a Windsor chair and create a child’s wooden rocking chair.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, experience a fall harvest picnic at Towne Park from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., and assist St. Charles County Parks staff cook a batch of old fashioned apple butter and apple cider. Learn about the importance of a fall harvest and farm orchards and how they shaped the diets of our ancestors in early 19th century St. Charles. Children will be entertained by playing period games and making corn husk dolls and corn cob darts.

Donated by the late Mrs. Betty Towne, the property was to be preserved and turned into a public park. For its efforts to restore the homestead, the Parks Department was recognized at the Missouri State Capital in Jefferson City by receiving the 2007 McReynolds Award from the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation.

The main focal points of the park are the restored homestead and the certified Nature Explore Classroom, a dynamic, nature-based play and learning space, which supports skill development in children by reconnecting them with the outdoors.



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For more information about programs, events and volunteering at the historical homestead at Towne Park, please visit www.stccparks.org or contact (636) 949-7535.

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