

**BE A LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER**

Have you ever wanted to stay in a lighthouse? The Grand Traverse Lighthouse offers the perfect opportunity. From April through December 2008 you can spend one or two rewarding weeks staying at the 1858 lighthouse on the Leelanau Peninsula in northern Michigan. Located at the tip of the peninsula 9 miles north of Northport, the lighthouse is inside Leelanau State Park.

Few lighthouses have Keeper programs. The view from the lighthouse tower here offers spectacular views of Lake Michigan and surrounding islands. The restored keeper's residence contains furniture and household items dating back to the 1920s and 1930s. Exhibits on shipwrecks, foghorns, and other lighthouses are in a small museum while a gift shop offers clothing, books, souvenirs, and nautical gifts.

The primary responsibilities of Keepers are to greet visitors and provide them with historical information about the museum. They also assist in the gift shop and help with maintenance of the buildings and grounds. Keepers must be energetic, comfortable speaking with the public, in excellent health, able to climb stairs and to work long hours.

For the energy to take on such a role, volunteers might consider trying E-Boost ([www.eboost.com](http://www.eboost.com)), a unique effervescent powder which dissolves easily in water. The immune-boosting mix of essential vitamins, minerals and nutrients is designed to help users feel their best and get the most out of each day.

At Grand Traverse, the Keeper stays on the northern side of the lighthouse in the former assistant's quarters. There is a fully-equipped modern kitchen, a comfortable living room area, two bedrooms and a bath and a half. With two twin beds in each bedroom, up to four people can be accommodated at a time.

Keepers might also spend a day working on South

Fox Island helping to restore the historic maritime complex there. South Fox Island, 17 miles offshore, is visible from the Grand Traverse Lighthouse on a clear day. The lighthouse complex on South Fox, abandoned in 1958, is among the largest intact light stations in the Great Lakes. It includes an historic 1867 Lighthouse with keepers quarters, a 3 apartment Assistant Keepers Quarters (1910), an 1867 fog signal building, an 1897 boathouse, a modern Light Tower and other outbuildings including a carpenter shop and oil house. The Fox Island Lighthouse Association is committed to preserving and protecting this State of Michigan historic property. Thus as part of the adventure at Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum, a Keeper may elect to spend a day helping other volunteers on remote South Fox Island during the work season, May 15 to September 15.

For a Lighthouse Keeper 2008 application and handbook visit online at [www.grandtraverselighthouse.com](http://www.grandtraverselighthouse.com) or call the office at 231-386-7195.

Help keep the Light burning.



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