



The Animals at Longstreet Farm

Longstreet Farm re-creates daily farm life in rural Monmouth County during the 1890s. Trained staff in period costume operate the farm in much the same way farmers would have at the turn-of-the-century, using authentic tools and methods.

To that end, the farm's working animals are raised and cared for just as they were in the past—to meet the labor, food and material needs of the farm. Mules and horses help plow the fields and harvest crops; dairy cows, chickens and pigs provide food to eat; and sheep are raised for meat and wool.

Today, the animals are well cared for to secure their good health and intended use. When they grow old or can no longer work toward the educational goals of the farm, they are replaced with animals that can. Farm staff work with local farmers who may prepare the animals for market, or with institutions that may have other uses for the animals.

Living history farms help us understand our past, and the animals in particular illustrate how hard people had to work just to eat, and have shelter and clothing. With today's modern conveniences, it is easy to take these basic necessities for granted.

Longstreet Farm is one of the few local sites where visitors can get a realistic idea of the past, because most aspects of farm life are authentically preserved.

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