



## SABLE POINTS LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION

### LIGHTHOUSE DOCENT – ROLE DESCRIPTION

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**TITLE:** Lighthouse Docent (unpaid, volunteer)

**REPORTS TO:** on-site SPLKA Staff

**LOCATION:** Big Sable Point Lighthouse

**ROLE AVAILABILITY:** Up to 2 volunteers are needed for this role on various dates—10/5, 10/12, 10/19, and 10/26

**TIME COMMITMENT:** Approx. 9 hours, 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM, with downtime between groups (30 mins)

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#### **ROLE SUMMARY & IMPACT**

The Lighthouse Docent creates an engaging and memorable experience for guests by leading guided tours of the Big Sable Point (BSP) Keepers' Quarters. The volunteer filling this role will work alongside other volunteers to increase SPLKA's visibility in the community, contribute to organizational fundraising, and support historical preservation and education efforts. This role is necessary in advancing SPLKA's position as a leading lighthouse preservation organization.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Greet guests upon arrival at BSP and create a welcoming and positive environment.
2. Lead groups of 7 guests or fewer through the BSP Keepers' Quarters.
3. Be knowledgeable of the historical significance of BSP and provide guests with accurate and relevant information.
4. Encourage interactive discussions on various topics related to maritime and local history by responding to questions.
5. Manage large groups of people to prevent overcrowding in high-traffic areas.
6. Ensure the safety of artifacts or objects on-site by monitoring guest activity.
7. Creates a positive educational experience for guests.
8. Respectfully communicates with guests of various ages and ethnic backgrounds.
9. Maintains positive relationships with Association's volunteers, staff, and stakeholders.
10. Other tasks as assigned by SPLKA staff.

#### **DESIRED SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS**

1. A genuine interest in local and maritime history and passion for historical preservation and education.
2. Comfortable with public speaking.
3. Attention to detail and accuracy.
4. Ability to work individually and with a team in fast-paced settings.
5. An attitude of tolerance and respect for differing opinions.

#### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Holds a SPLKA membership at the associate membership level or higher.
2. Experience managing large groups of people and/or working with students.
3. A sense of flexibility and cooperation.
4. Ability to walk, sit, or stand for extended periods of time.
5. Ability to climb up to 130 steps.

*The mission of the Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association is to preserve, promote, educate the public, and make our lighthouses accessible to all.*



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#### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES & REQUIREMENTS

Volunteers will be provided with written materials regarding event day procedures including tour routes and a history packet prior to their scheduled shift. Additional/on-site training may be provided as needed, but must be scheduled in advance with the operations manager.

#### BENEFITS

1. No-cost lodging while volunteering at Ludington N. Breakwater volunteer residence (due to ongoing construction and Ludington State Park guidelines, volunteers are not permitted to explore within the park).
2. Lunch provided on day of event.
3. Volunteer discount (30%) on merchandise in gift shop.
4. Discounted admission price to The Port of Ludington Maritime Museum (until 2026).
5. Eligible for tax deductions on related expenses such as: mileage, gas, toll-fees, and parking-fees.

**LINK TO SIGN-UP:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CACA722A6FFC52-51470477-bigsable>

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Thank you for your interest in volunteering for our Big Sable “Behind the Scenes” Tours! Our volunteers are essential to helping SPLKA fulfill its mission to “preserve, promote, educate the public, and make our lighthouses accessible to all.”

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