

# Turn Point Lighthouse Preservation Society (TPLPS) Docent Information sheet for 2019.

## General Info

Thank you so much for deciding to be a docent this summer at Turn Point on Stuart Island. You are representing both TPLPS and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Your mission is to allow visitors to experience Turn Point's beauty and history.

During your tour of duty you will meet hundreds of visitors. There may also be contractors on site completing minor projects. They will let you know if any areas are off-limits during their work.

## Host/Docent Duties

The primary reason for having a host/docent is to have the light station open to the public.

The museum is open 11 am to 4:30 pm. It is closed on Mondays. Tours of the Keepers' Quarters are conducted at (but not limited to) 11:30, 1:00, 2:30, and 4:00.

## Also the docent:

- Raises and lowers the flag each day
- Puts out the museum open sign
- Opens the Museum
- Starts the movie
- Meets and greets people
- Opens the Keepers' Quarters for tours at posted times
- Asks the visitors to sign the guest book
- Becomes knowledgeable on the history and answers basic questions  
Review TPLPS website [www.tplps.org](http://www.tplps.org) before arriving
- Makes sure there is always TP (toilet paper) available at the BLM toilet
- Sells items or takes IOUs for the small gift shop Note: Make sure contact information is complete and legible!
- Stays abreast of whale migrations by radio so you can inform the visitors
- Keeps the brochure boxes at least half full
- Sweep and dust as needed in Keepers' Quarters and museum
- Secures the site at the end of the day

**Have fun, relax, and have a great week.**

## **Transportation**

Turn Point is located at the northwest tip of Stuart Island in the San Juan Islands. The only way to get to the island is by boat. If you do not have a boat, TPLPS will transport you from either Orcas Island ferry landing or Roche Harbor on San Juan Island. You can leave your vehicle for free at TPLPS members' home at Orcas but must pay for parking at Roche Harbor (\$5/day). A shuttle bus can take you from the ferry landing in Friday Harbor to Roche Harbor for a small fee. Taxis are available at a much higher rate. If you have your own boat, you can anchor in Prevost Harbor or use a State Park mooring buoy. There is a charge and maximum stay when using the State buoys. You can tie-up your dinghy at the float next to the County Dock during your duty hours.

**Ferry Reservations are highly recommended (see separate document)**

The TPLPS car (2000 Subaru) is yours to use during your stay. It should generally be used to go to the school or harbor. Most of the property on the Island is private as well as many of the roads. Please keep the car on the public roads and respect private property.

## **Housing**

Docents can either stay on their boat and commute daily to the light station or stay in the TPLPS travel trailer permanently located in a private setting adjacent to the light station grounds.

The trailer is a 2008 28-foot Keystone Springdale, very well-equipped and quite comfortable. All the necessities have been provided to make your stay enjoyable.

A propane barbecue is provided but the microwave oven is unusable. Plan meals accordingly. There is also an outside picnic table and lawn chairs.

Bedding – 3 separate beds:

The Master bedroom offers a walk-around queen bed with privacy curtain. The sofa opens to approximately a slightly-shorter-than-twin-size bed. The dinette also breaks down into a twin bed. Sheets, pillow cases, pillows and blankets are provided and stored under the queen bed.

## **Equipment:**

Cookware, dishes, cups/glasses, serving/eating utensils, personal towels/washcloths, paper towels, napkins, and dishtowels/wash rags are all provided.

Electricity is 12-volt DC only, with two deep cycle marine batteries. A solar panel is used to charge the trailer batteries.

Refrigerator is propane and 12v DC powered. Even though there may be plenty of propane, overuse of 12 volt system will stop fridge.

Stove, water heater, and forced air heater are all propane-powered.

The hot water heater should be used only for showers to minimize propane use.

60-gallon internal water tank. An external 100-gallon auxiliary water tank can be used to replenish the internal water tank when necessary.

TPLPS will supply several gallon jugs of drinking water which can be refilled at the Bergquist residence.

Note: Please conserve energy and water!

- No sun and/or an excessive use of lights can reduce the batteries to the point that the refrigerator quits.

- Propane tanks must be taken by TPLPS to Roche Harbor to refill.

- It is a major effort to transport water to the site so you are encouraged to CONSERVE water and take "shipboard showers"

Additional electricity conservation tips:

- Turn on the water pump only when needed. Verify it is off before exiting the trailer.

- Ensure exterior lights are off when not in use.

- Ensure the trailer radio is off when not in use (it will function on 12v DC but reception is marginal except Canadian stations.

Gray water from the sinks and shower will automatically drain into a Ground basin.

The trailer does NOT have a sewer hook-up so we ask that the toilet only be used in an emergency and never for #2. One of the nicest outhouses in the San Juans is located just down the hill from the trailer.

- There is no working microwave oven. Plan meals accordingly.

An outdoor propane barbecue is also provided with a picnic table and Lawn chairs.

For those that rely on mobile devices, they can be recharged at the museum which is equipped with 120v AC power.

Two of our board members, Jim and Linda Bergquist live on Stuart. If you forgot anything, they may be able to supply it.

Be advised that you are living in a forest with numerous animals. Mice and Raccoons frequent the area so protect your food and garbage from them. On your day of departure, gather up the used sheets, pillow cases, towels, dish rags, etc. and drop them off at the Bergquist residence. Please leave trailer clean for the next docents.

**Food** - There are no stores on Stuart Island so bring provisions for a week. The trailer refrigerator is small with a freezing compartment. A small refrigerator is located in the Fog-Signal Building that can also be used. Canned and dry foods work good.

**Garbage** - All garbage must be removed when you leave. There is a good supply of garbage bags for this purpose. We recommend double bagging to prevent accidents. No garbage facilities are available for visitors. What they bring in, they must pack out.

### **Emergencies/Communications**

Your closest neighbor is about a mile away. The quickest response must come from San Juan Island. 911 is not available for cell phones so a 10-digit number must be dialed. It is **360-378-4141**. EMTs will be dispatched and possibly a helicopter.

You will have a Marine band radio available to keep track of the whale watch boats. Channel 16 is a calling and distress frequency only.

Cell phones work but they may use Canadian towers so there could be a cost issue depending on your service.

Internet WI-FI is available at the Bergquist residence.

There is a first aid kit in the museum (top drawer of filing cabinet).

### TPLPS Contact Numbers/email

Jim & Linda Bergquist 425-608-2679 jberg@rockisland.com

Mike and Margaret Jonas 360-376-5246 sheets11@earthlink.net

