

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Homestead National Monument of America
Beatrice, Nebraska

Free Land was the Cry!

Visit the Homestead Heritage Center

The award winning Heritage Center opened in May 2007. Now there is a place where the magnitude and world-wide impact of the Homestead Act of 1862 is being told.

The Homestead Act gave individuals the opportunity to claim free government land. Tens-of-thousands of people rose to the challenge and 270 million acres were claimed and settled under the act.

Immerse yourself in this epic story from the moment you see this distinct visitor center rising above the prairie. Meant to look like a plow cutting sod, the roof purposely points west. Experience homesteaders' stories through the national homesteading museum with a viewable museum collection, interactive games, and a 21st-century film. Even the parking lot has a story to tell. West facing window walls offer a magnificent view of restored tall grass prairie.

There are an
estimated
93,000,000
descendants of
homesteaders
in the world
today.
*Are you
one?*



Experience the
past. Become part
of the future.

Produced in part by a grant from the
Nebraska Division of Travel & Tourism.

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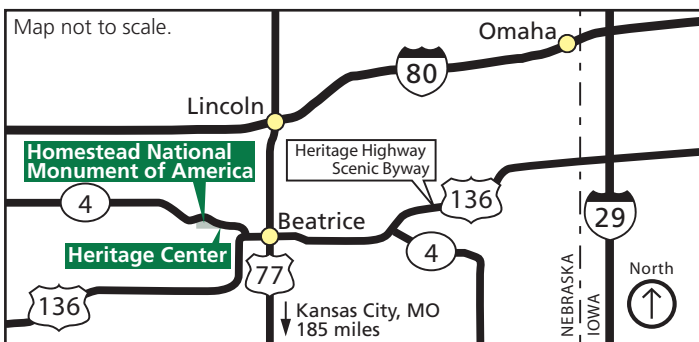
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Free admission to the monument, museums, all events, and activities.

The **Heritage Center** is the newest addition to Homestead National Monument of America. (The monument is located on one of the first homesteads in the nation.) The **Education Center** provides lifelong learning with curriculum-based education programs, the technology to bring programs to classrooms across the country, and special exhibitions. It also includes the **Palmer-Epard Cabin**, an original settler's home and **Farm Implement Museum** as well as picnic tables. The **Freeman School** is a historic one-room school-house in use until 1968. Over 3 miles of trails meander through over 150 acres of restored **tallgrass prairie** and oak woodland. Special events and ranger-led activities are scheduled throughout the year.



Disabled parking, wheelchairs, assisted listening headsets and open captioning are available at the monument.



Directions:

Homestead National Monument of America is located 4 miles west of Beatrice, Nebraska on State Highway 4. If traveling on I-80, take Exit 397 and continue south

on U.S. Highway 77. Homestead is located about 40 miles from Lincoln and 90 miles from Omaha, Nebraska.

Hours of operation:

Open daily.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day,
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

From Labor Day to Memorial Day,
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. weekdays,
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. weekends.

Closed Thanksgiving Day,
December 25 and January 1.

For additional information:

Superintendent
Homestead National
Monument of America
8523 W. State Highway 4
Beatrice, NE 68310

402/223-3514
www.nps.gov/home