

Third-Fifth Grade: Mills of Rochester

This presentation introduces students to the history of mills and waterways in the greater Rochester area and their function and importance to early settler families and the economic growth of the community. This program can be held at the Rochester Hills Museum or in the classroom.

Program Components

What is a Mill?: Students will understand how a mill uses the power of the Clinton River, Paint Creek, or Stony Creek to cut lumber, grind grain, make paper, press cider, or process wool.

Who was the Miller?: The costumed presenter will introduce students to the responsibilities, dangers, and community status of the miller.

Products of a Mill: Students will be able to see and feel actual stone-ground grain, corn meal and unprocessed wool.

Mills of Rochester: Because of the speed of the Clinton River, Paint Creek, and Stony Creek, Rochester was home to eighteen separate mill sites. The history and importance of many of the sites are discussed.

Information

Cost: \$75.00 per presentation

Time: 1 Hour

Availability: Tuesdays-Fridays 9:00am-4:00pm

Curriculum Topics Addressed

- Why did early settlers in Michigan build their homes and communities near water?
- The topography of Oakland County and the greater Rochester area.
- The types of resources necessary to produce and distribute selected goods (lumber, wool, cider, paper, and flour).
- Describe the location, use and importance of water resources.