

Pocket-guide for Äerdschëff Volunteers



Äerdschëff

www.aerdscheff.cell.lu

CELL

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Centre for Ecological Learning
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Luxembourg in Transition

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Funded by:



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère du Développement durable
et des Infrastructures



CEUVRE
Nationale de Secours
Grande-Duchesse Charlotte





The 'Chantier Participatif' (Participatory Construction):

This building experience is a project of CELL - the Centre for Ecological Learning Luxembourg. It is a non-profit organisation established in 2010 that provides an experimental space for thinking, researching, disseminating and practising post-carbon lifestyles and regenerative culture. CELL aims to take nature and evolution as our primary source of inspiration and use the patterns and forms found in nature to create living, evolving and resilient systems and organisations. CELL aspires towards living sustainably by example and endorses integral, systemic thinking and action; fostering a culture of solidarity and collaboration; skilling up for living well in a post-carbon economy.

The Äerdschëff, the first public earthship-inspired building in the world, is a hub for social diversity and a showcase for a cultural transition to a low-impact world. Through this space open to all, we want to create social relationships within families, villages and the region, it is an educational centre focused on ecology, self-expression and diversity. Café-restaurant, cooperative games, creative weeks, workshops, courses and seminars, concerts, screenings, ... This is a place destined to document, educate and research as well as to stimulate curiosity and creativity in order to develop and be able to share one's own skills and knowledge.

This workshop is NOT an "Earthship Academy", but an independent Earthship inspired effort started by Earthship Academy students. In order to share our knowledge and experience we are organising these workshops.

The first part of the chantier participatif took place from 29 July to 24 August 2019.

We are now taking signups for our second phase, **30 September to 12 October**.

Everybody wishing to join is invited to indicate their preferences in the questionnaire on our website.



Current and future workshops might cover many topics such as:
Tyre pounding, clay and adobe, miscanthus, bottle bricks, mycelium, aquaponics, Earthship design etc.

The “chantier participatif” will take place in the municipality of Redange, in the North-West part of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg at the border with Belgium. The construction site is located on the land of a secondary school, called “Atert Lycée Redange”. The town has a big supermarket (only 100 meters from the school), a few bars and restaurants, banks, a post office and all basic needs.

Schedule

The second phase of this project will be a **workshop accompanied by an “Earthship crew” from September 30 - October 12**. This group of experts of different fields have a lot of experience with Earthships and participatory eco-construction. They will both pass on their detailed knowledge about all aspects of the building to us and guide us with the practical implementation.

The schedule will be Monday to Friday, 8:30-16:30, with one hour for lunch. Please note that the schedule might change depending on weather and jobs on specific days.

You do not have to have amazing superhuman fitness levels to participate! There are plenty of tasks in building an “Earthship” and there will always be something that you want to and can easily do.

On Monday mornings, we will have breakfast together and provide an explanation of the construction (visit of the site, safety briefing, practical info) and the work that we will be doing during the week.



Accommodation

Accommodation and transport to the site is the responsibility of each individual, nevertheless we will be organizing an accommodation option for volunteers coming from afar. Please specify that you need accommodation when you register and we will be in touch with more information about this. There will be a fee for accommodation that will not exceed €150 per week.

Visa and Insurance

European Union citizens don't require a visa for Luxembourg. For international volunteers, Luxembourg is part of the Schengen treaty and therefore all EU visas are accepted.

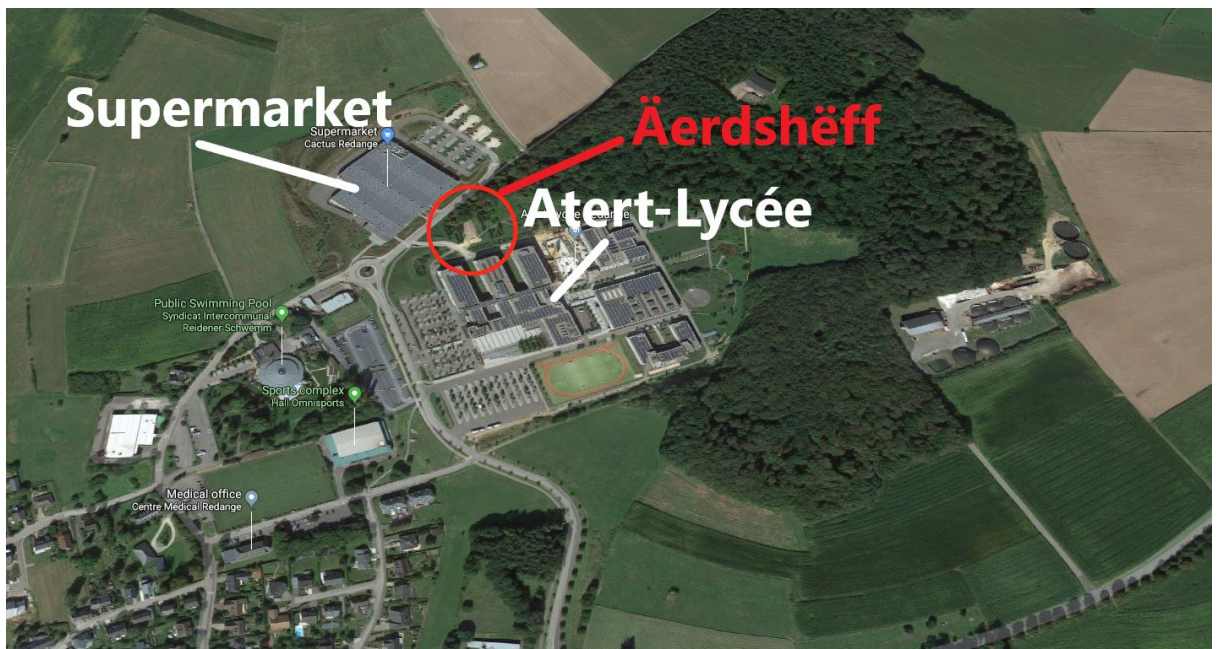
Please note that CELL members can be insured for accidents. We **strongly** urge you to consider becoming a CELL member to acquire this insurance. Membership as stated in our statutes requires a minimum of **10€** donation.

You are responsible for your own travel, health and damage insurance (personal liability). **Please provide a copy** of your valid health, damage and travel insurance! When you arrive at the construction site, we will ask you to sign a 'form' explaining that CELL doesn't take full responsibility for accidents or damages occurred by participating in this workshop.

Transport

The Äerdschëff construction site is located between the secondary school (Atert Lycée) and the supermarket (Cactus) in the town of Redange.

<https://bit.ly/2JKfd7O>



By car: The closest parking to the construction site is the one of the supermarket but there is also one in front of the secondary school. We encourage you to use public transport or car pooling!

By public transport: Reach the Luxembourg central railway station and then take a bus to the city center (Hamilius bus stop) walk to the bus stop “Centre, Monterey Park” (500m) and take the bus 250 or 265 to Redange (around one bus per hour and the ride takes around one hour as well). Signs will guide you to the construction site that’s located just 500m from the station “Redange, Lycée Atert”. (For details on the connections that day, check [https://www.mobiliteit.lu/!](https://www.mobiliteit.lu/))

Public transport in Luxembourg cost 2€ for a one way ticket and 4€ for a day ticket. (www.mobiliteit.lu)

Please be aware that public transport is quite limited on Sundays.

By plane: From the airport in Luxembourg take the bus 16 to the bus stop Hamilius, then follow the same steps as the previous paragraph.

Food and dishes

Food is not included in the Äerdschëff chantier participatif. Every volunteer will be responsible for their own meals. A kitchen tent will be available on site and it will be possible to organise some cooking shifts between volunteers. The construction site is only 100 meters from a big supermarket (that is open

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daily) so you will always be able to arrange something. Drinking water will always be available.

We ask you to **bring your own dishes** (plate, bowl, cup, water bottle, cutlery).

We will organise weekly local organic veggie boxes for the volunteers.

Communication & languages

There is Free Wi-Fi available inside the Supermarket (100 meters from site) but no Wi-Fi in the boarding school .

Internet on phones usually works without problems if you already have a European contract.

The official language during the participative construction will be English but also French, German and Luxembourgish will be spoken.

Costs and Payment

Volunteer participation is free and includes:

- Basic knowledge about “Earthships”
- Work with local building professionals and/or Earthship experts
- Access to all workshops during that period
- Drinking water
- Use of the common kitchen
- We will organise a weekly box with local organic veggies and fruits for volunteers and crew



We do NOT offer:

- Transfers to site
- Insurance for non-CELL members
- Food
- Official Earthship Academy certificate

Work ethics and cultural awareness

Please be mindful of cultural differences within the Äerdschëff Crew. We would like for everyone to enjoy and benefit from what this community has to offer, and act with respect and thoughtfulness at all times.

As well as an Earthship-inspired building, we would like to create a positive environment for everyone involved.

Through registering and working with the Äerdschëff Team, you are considered a representative of the project.

Disrespectful behavior in any way on the construction site will result in immediate eviction from the program as it affects the safety of all.

A gentle reminder ...

- You have to be at least 18 years old
- No illegal drugs allowed, no drug abuse, no excessive drinking
- You must be absolutely sober during working hours
- The common areas must be kept clean at all times
- Have a travel/health and damage insurance valid in

Europe/Luxembourg

- You are responsible for having the vaccinations necessary for this activity, so we will not ask for your vaccination card
- Be able to communicate in English, German, or French
- Please leave your animal friends at home



What to bring:

- work clothes
- working gloves
- sturdy shoes
- sun protection (hat, sun cream...)
- rain jacket (water resistant)
- your own cutlery (cup, plate, bowl, knife, spoon, fork)
- reusable water bottle
- towel
- sleeping bag/sheets
- pillow

... and if you can squeeze it in:

- Games
- Music instruments
- Headlight
- Camping Knife

Thank you for your interest in the project!
We hope to see you soon in Luxembourg...

...and find us on facebook and instagram for updates!!!

*Best wishes,
your Ä-Team!*

