



## School Field Trip Contract

Magnolia Meadow Farms offers field trips on special weekdays when we are open to the public during our Fall Season. Our field trip program is available to any accredited public or private school, pre-school, year-round daycare, head start program and homeschool co-op.

### **Available dates for the Fall 2024 Season are:**

- Friday, September 27th, 2024 (Home School and Daycare Day)
- Monday, October 14th, 2024
- Friday, October 18th, 2024
- Friday, October 25th, 2024

### **FIELD TRIPS INCLUDE:**

1. **Admission** to our Fall Festival with over 20 activities (valid for the entire day of the trip). One (1) FREE teacher admission per 20 students.
2. A **hayride** to the pumpkin patch to pick your own pumpkin. Your group will be assigned a designated time for your hayride.
3. A brief **lesson** on the life cycle of a pumpkin.
4. One (1) free **pumpkin** (under 5 pounds) is included for each child.
5. One (1) free **coloring book** and a set of crayons is included for each child. Our coloring book includes information on the animals and agricultural products produced on our farm.

Please visit <https://www.magnoliameadowfarms.com/activities> for a complete list of attractions.

### **RESERVATION POLICY:**

1. A signed field trip **contract** and a **\$100 deposit** are required to reserve your date. Deposit goes toward your group's final balance. Non-refundable if you cancel your trip. Refundable if the farm closes due to weather.
2. The signed contract and deposit must be received **at least 7 days prior to your trip**. Your trip is not confirmed until we receive your signed contract and deposit.
3. Any school that does not sign a contract and make a deposit within 7 days of the trip will not receive the school field trip rate for admission and the included hayride, lesson, free pumpkin, and coloring book.

Complete the form at <https://tickets.magnoliameadowfarms.com/field-trips> to reserve your date. You will need to provide **contact information, date requested, arrival time** and **total number of people**.

Deposits can be made online through our reservation system (subject to 3.5% processing fee) or by cash/check (mailed to the farm at 14610 Roddy Rd, Thurmont, MD 21788)



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### **COST:**

1. The cost is **\$12 per person** (children, adults and chaperones), **when paid in ONE transaction.**
2. **Kids under age 2 are FREE.** Pumpkins for kids under 2 can be purchased at check-in (optional).
3. **One FREE teacher admission per 20 students.**
4. Season passes are not valid for school tours. Season pass holders must pay \$12 per person.
5. Schools must make a reservation at least 7 days in advance of their visit to qualify for the school group rate.
6. Unused wristbands cannot be used on another date. **DO NOT** give them to guests from your school. They are unable to use them on any other date.
7. ALL sales are final on tickets and merchandise. We do not give refunds. It is your responsibility to purchase the appropriate number of tickets for your group.
8. You must have a **minimum of 20 people** age 2 and older to qualify for the school field trip rate. If your group has less than 20 people, you have two options:
  - a. General Admission: (pumpkin/lesson/coloring book not included) on any day during our Fall Season.
  - b. Home School and Daycare Day: Friday, September 27th, 2024
    - i. Parents and their home-schooled children may take advantage of the school group rates, even if there are less than 20 people.
    - ii. On this day only, you will receive the group rate of \$12 per person (kids under age 2 are FREE)
    - iii. No reservations necessary. Please let the cashier know you are there for Homeschool Day.
    - iv. Hayride: You will not be assigned a private hayride time. The hayride departs once an hour starting at 10:30am and ending at 5:30pm. You are responsible for gathering your group for a hayride to pick your own pumpkin (under 5 pounds, included). Check-in opens at 10:00 am. No free teachers or parents.
    - v. You will not receive the lesson, but you will receive the coloring book.

### **SUNFLOWERS/CUT FLOWERS OPTION:**

1. Available on Friday, September 27th and Monday, October 14th ONLY.
2. ***This option is only available for Grades 3 and up. Flowers are cut with an industrial pair of cutters and are not suitable for young children.***
3. Sunflowers and Cut Flowers are planted to bloom during our fall season. If your group would like to pick sunflowers OR cut flowers **IN LIEU OF** pumpkin picking, please request the "Sunflower Tour" or "Cut Flower Tour" when making your reservation.
4. Each person will take a hayride to pick **ONE FLOWER** from our fields (same cost \$12 per person).
5. NOTE: sunflowers/cut flowers option is subject to availability. Please be prepared to be flexible with your visit.

### **WEATHER POLICY:**

1. **This event is outdoors** and therefore held **weather permitting**. An announcement regarding any closures will be made at least 2 hours before opening. Please check our Facebook page, Instagram, website homepage, or call us at (301) 606-4086 for updates on conditions or closings.
2. During unexpected rainy or damp weather, we try to keep as many attractions open as we can. Magnolia Meadow Farms reserves the right to close any area or the entire farm at any time due to weather or unsafe conditions.
3. If you have a field trip reservation on a day we close, a farm manager will contact you by the phone number or email listed on your reservation. Rain dates cannot be given at the time of booking, but rescheduling is possible if open dates are available. If rescheduling isn't an option, a full refund of the deposit will be issued.



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### **FINAL PAYMENT ON ARRIVAL:**

Please bring payment for your entire group and pay upon arrival at check-in. **You must pay with ONE PAYMENT** of cash or check to receive the group school field trip rate of \$12. We do not accept payment vouchers. *Credit Card Convenience Fee: a 3.5% fee will be added for schools using a credit card to pay.*

1. If parents are arriving separately/early and paying **on their own**, please tell them to arrive 15 minutes early to allow enough time for them to purchase general admission before the rest of your group arrives. They may also purchase admission ahead of time online.
2. Any person paying separately will not receive the group rate - they will pay general admission.
3. You will receive wristbands for your group at check-in after payment is complete. The cashier will count the wristbands out to you using the number you paid for, calculated on your check-in form.
  - a. Please make sure you receive the **correct number of wristbands** before walking away from the cashier. If you do not have enough for every person in your group (including teachers), you will have to purchase more before those without wristbands can enter the farm. Make sure you keep your receipt to turn into your school!
4. Everyone in your group must be properly wearing a wristband to enter the farm.
  - a. **You are responsible for distributing wristbands to your group members!**

### **FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE:**

**HAVE YOUR CHECK-IN FORM AND PAYMENT READY WHEN YOU ARRIVE!** *Be organized!* The sooner you have your numbers/check-in form/payment ready, the sooner the fun can begin!

1. **ARRIVAL:** Please designate **ONE (1) representative** from your group to check-in at the Ticket Building. The remainder of your group must remain on the bus/vehicles in the Parking Lot.
2. **WRISTBANDS:** After you have received your wristbands, please give them out to your group on the bus/in vehicles **in the Parking Lot**. From there, your group may enter the farm.
  - a. Please **DO NOT** bring your group to the entrance to put on wristbands. Blocking the entrance will prevent us from checking in other groups and guests.
3. **ACTIVITIES:** our farm has over 20 activities included. **Children must always be supervised** by a teacher or chaperone. Magnolia Meadow Farms is not responsible for making sure that your group stays together.
4. **HAYRIDE:** Your group will be assigned a designated time for you to take your hayride together. It is your responsibility to **communicate your designated time** to your group. We will also remind you at check-in and will make announcements over our sound system to remind your group that it is time for your hayride.
  - a. A farm representative will meet your group for the pumpkin lesson.
  - b. The included free pumpkins are picked from our Field Trip Patch.
  - c. After returning from the patch, your group's pumpkins will be placed in a designated area at our Market (HINT: bring bags labeled with the kids' names). You will pick them up at the Market before departure.
5. **DEPARTURE:** Complete any Market purchases before exiting the farm. Your pumpkins will be labeled with your school's name. **Wagons must be returned** to the Market (please don't leave wagons in the Parking Lot!). Do not reenter the Market with your field trip pumpkins or purchases.



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### TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FIELD TRIP:

1. DRESS: Please tell the kids to dress appropriately for the conditions (in layers if it's cold, in breathable clothing if it's hot) and to wear clothes that are comfortable for movement and activity. Wear old shoes!
2. FAQ: Please visit our website and review the Policies & FAQ page before your visit.
3. BATHROOMS: Magnolia Meadow Farms has portable restrooms at the entrance to the farm and at the back of the farm behind our Farm Animal Interactions area.
4. FOOD: Our Concessions will be open and available if your students would like to purchase food or drinks. Please see the menu on our website. The farm has water, soda, cider, juice and other beverages available for purchase, but does not provide free drinks or cups.
5. PUMPKINS: We recommend bringing bags with your students' names on them, or a sharpie to mark the bottoms of the pumpkins with each kid's names. Save yourself from the trouble of figuring out whose pumpkins were whose!

We look forward to hosting you!

Group Contact:

(Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

(Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Magnolia Meadow Farms  
info@magnoliameadowfarms.com  
(301) 606-4086  
[www.magnoliameadowfarms.com](http://www.magnoliameadowfarms.com)  
13001 Creagerstown Rd  
Thurmont, MD 21788



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## Check-In and Payment Form

Bring this completed form and your final payment to the Ticket Building. The cell phone number listed below may be used to contact you during your visit (i.e. lost student, etc.)

School/Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

_____	Number of Children (Age 2 and older) x \$12.00	=	_____
_____	Free Teacher (1 free teacher per 20 students) x \$0.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
_____	Extra Teachers, Staff and Instructional Assistants x \$12.00	=	_____
_____	Chaperones & Additional Family Members x \$12.00	=	_____
_____	Pumpkins for Kids under 2 (optional) x \$3.00	=	_____
_____	Animal Feed in Souvenir Cup (optional) x \$3.00	=	_____
_____	Deposit - \$-100.00	=	<u>- \$100.00</u>
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	=	<b>\$ _____</b>

\_\_\_\_\_ # of WRISTBANDS: Every person must be wearing a wristband before entering the farm.

You are responsible for distributing wristbands to your group members. Please hand them out in the parking lot to avoid crowding the entrance.

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