

# Oxon Hill Farm

National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior



## Guidelines for a Successful Group Visit to Oxon Hill Farm:

- Arrive at least 20 minutes before your scheduled program. This will allow time for you to walk from the upper parking lot to the Visitor Barn, check in, and use the restrooms. If your group includes individuals with physical disabilities, your bus driver may drive on the gravel road to the Visitor Barn, drop off members of your group, and then park in the upper lot. Please notify us in advance, if this is the case.
- If you are delayed by traffic, etc., please call the park at 301-763-1062 or 301-839-1176. If your group is more than 15 minutes late, the park rangers will attempt to adjust the schedule, but it is possible that your group will miss the program. If this is the case, you can try to reschedule.
- Make sure that the required number of adults accompanies your group. Preschool, kindergarten, and special education groups must bring at least one adult for every 5 children. The ratio for groups in grades 1-6 is one adult for every 7 children. Chaperones are expected to be actively engaged in the activities and to supervise students at all times. This insures the safety of the visitors in the park, as well as the health and safety of the animals.
- Do not allow climbing on farm equipment or on fences.
- There is no smoking within 30 feet of any building, and no smoking during the programs. Cigarette butts must be completely extinguished and placed in ash containers.
- Oxon Hill Farm has a small bookstore where books, inexpensive gifts, and soft drinks are sold. No food is available for purchase, but you are welcome to pack your lunch and eat in the (uncovered) picnic area near the upper parking lot. Have the students leave their lunches on the bus until lunchtime. Water fountains are located near the Visitor Barn.
- Dress appropriately for the weather. Most of the programs are outside. Parts of your program may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. (For example, wagon rides do not take place in the rain, ice, and snow.) Also, be aware that farms sometimes have sloppy things to step in, so do not wear sandals or fancy new shoes!
- To help preserve the natural and cultural resources of Oxon Cove Park, do not allow any collecting or removal of objects from the farm. Do not pick flowers, fruits, or vegetables.
- Treat the animals with kindness. Make sure no one throws rocks or makes quick movements or loud noises. Do not feed the animals, unless instructed to do so by the park rangers. Hands must be kept away from the mouths of the animals to avoid being bitten. You will be told which animals are safe to touch.
- If you plan to explore the cove or forest areas of the park, be on the lookout for poison ivy, ticks, and forest creatures such as deer, snakes, and foxes. Wear sunscreen and insect repellent. Dress in layers, and bring drinking water and a first aid kit.
- No dogs are allowed in Oxon Cove Park.

I have read the guidelines above and have discussed them with the other members of my group.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_