

# Tips For Your Visit

The best seasons to visit Oxon Hill Farm and meet the farm animals are winter and the cooler months of spring and fall. During the cooler months, the animals stay close to the fence and can be easily seen. During the warmer months the animals graze in the pastures, find shade to keep cool, and are not often seen during park hours. However, if you do visit the park on a hot day, there are still things to do. You can take a hike, look at our exhibits, or take a self-guided tour.

- Fall and spring are peak times for school groups, but family groups are welcome to join the programs if space is available. If you are a family group or a school group, consisting of 5 or more people, you must also make a group reservations. Reservations must be made at least 2 weeks prior to your visit. No reservations needed on the weekend. Call ahead for program availability. We reserve the right to cancel programs without notice.
- When you arrive at the park, stop at the Visitor Center and you will find park rangers to greet you and answer your questions. The Visitor Center Bookstore has a great selection of children's books. There is also a children's corner where you will find books, activities, a hands-on touch table, and farm related games and toys for your children to play with.
- Make sure that you wear comfortable shoes and clothing because your experience at the park will be most enjoyable if you are comfortably dressed.
- It's always a good idea to check the weather forecast before you leave the house. Programs take place in the rain except during thunderstorms. We do not present programs if it is a code red or orange day. Call ahead to see if programs will take place on bad weather days.
- If it's going to be a warm day you might want to consider bringing drinking water with you. Using sunscreen is advisable.
- Bring your National Park Passport Book if you are collecting cancellation stamps.
- Don't forget your camera. Photos are always a great memento of your park experience.
- Bring a pair of binoculars to check out wild creatures.

- If you are visiting the park with children, it is often helpful to read a book or two with the kids about agriculture, nature, wildlife, and early American history. Reading can get children very excited about their visit and they really can learn a lot, too.
- Remember that all farm animals are domesticated and look friendly and nonthreatening. However, please do not pet the animals unless you are participating in a program with a ranger. Also, please don't feed any of the animals or chase any of the naturally roaming animals.
- Pets (with the exception of guide dogs) are not allowed.
- Camping areas are not available at Oxon Cove Park.
- When hiking, stay on the established trail and watch your footing.
- Food purchases are not available in the park. There is a juice and water vending machine in the Visitor Center.
- There are picnicking areas but are available first come – first served.

## • **Tips for a Safe Visit**

- Do not feed the animals.
- Pay attention to your surroundings.
- Do not climb on machinery or fences.
- Supervise your children at all times.
- Bikes are allowed only on paved surfaces.
- No dogs allowed.