

Bill's Berry Farm

Spring and Fall Educational and Corn Maze Tours Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do we make a reservation?

Call Julie Michener at 509-882-3200 to reserve a date and time on our calendar.

2. When are educational tours offered?

All tours are scheduled on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Signs of Spring Tours: Offered in May and June. (Call Julie for details)

Fall Apple and Corn maze Tours: The last two weeks in September and the month of October.

Fall Pumpkin Tours: The month of October.

3. What time are educational tours offered?

Tours are scheduled in groups at 9:30am, 11:00am, and 12:30 pm. Multiple small groups may be scheduled simultaneously, but will start at different stations allowing you to have a private tour.

4. What is included in the educational tour?

Educational Tours are filled with "Hands on Fun" and include an educational but fun lesson in our outdoor classroom, a tour of the farm on Farmer Bill's hay wagon, a frolicking visit with our "Barnyard Buddies" and a refreshment of fresh made donut and juice. **Signs of Spring educational tours** will learn about seasons, blooms or bees and pollination, as well as have a hands on experience planting a seed to take home. **Fall Apple Orchard and Pumpkin Patch educational tours** will get an agricultural lesson pertaining to fall harvest and pumpkins. **Corn Maze Tours** are filled with so much fun and laughter that children don't realize they are gaining knowledge and skills along the way. Tours include a self-guided tour of the maze and all Farmland activities. Children use problem solving and team building skills to not only get through our maze, but to play one or two games built into the maze. (Note: each team must be accompanied by an adult at all times.) Does NOT include juice and snacks.

5. What do we do when we arrive?

All Spring, Apple and Pumpkin Tour groups should park in the main festival parking lot (all the way at the end of the road). When you arrive please have your payment ready so we can quickly check you in, give you any further instructions, and get you started on your tour!

Corn Maze Tour groups should park in the overflow/corn maze parking lot (the first one you will come to). When you arrive please have one person come to the Corn Maze Entrance to let us know you have arrived, make your payment and receive further instructions.

We have found the payment process works much smoother if you follow these steps:

- a. Get a total count of staff, students, chaperones, parents and siblings prior to the trip.
- b. Ask that payment be made prior to your trip so the school can write one check.
- c. Email the final count to Julie at info@billsberryfarm.com at least 3 days prior to your tour: students, staff, chaperones, parents and siblings.
- d. We understand that your school may have booked more than 1 trip, however, we ask that the check, cash or credit card payment only cover trips scheduled on that day. Please

do not pay for trips scheduled ahead.

6. How many people can attend the tour in each class/group?

No more than 50 guests (including teachers, aides, students and additional chaperones, parents and siblings). Your group may be as small as you want, but there will be a minimum \$65 fee charged per group.

7. How long can we stay?

Each tour lasts 1 to 1½ hours, depending on the age, from scheduled start time to finish. There are no scheduled restroom breaks. Please arrive 15-20 minutes early to allow time for unloading, restroom use and for the designated person to pay fees and receive instructions. If you are late to the first station your tour may be cut short so that we can keep all groups rotating on schedule. Prior to your visit you need to let us know if you are staying for lunch or plan to use our playgrounds. You are welcome to stay for as long as your time allows, however, we ask that if you stay longer, you keep your group together, you remain within our Berry Park, and that you don't interfere with other tours.

8. How much does the tour cost?

All students are \$5 each. One teacher and up to two aides are free. All additional aides, chaperones, and parents are \$2 each. Siblings that are old enough to participate in the activity and eat the snack will be charged \$5 each. Each of our tours has a minimum fee of \$65.

9. How do we pay?

PAYMENT MUST BE MADE AT TIME OF TOUR.* Payment can be made by school/personal check, cash or credit card. Please make checks payable to Bill's Berry Farm. *If you need to be billed for your farm tour, please contact Julie well in advance so that your payment is available at time of your tour.

10. What about food and beverage?

Educational tours include a donut and a juice served at the conclusion of the tour. Tour groups are welcome to bring their own sack lunch, a picnic area is available. Please make sure your area is left as you found it. Trash cans are located in the picnic area.

11. Is there somewhere to keep our food and beverages cold?

There is no cooler or freezer space available.

12. Who is responsible for cleaning up the picnic area?

We ask that your lunch site be left in the same condition as you found it. Trash cans are provided near the picnic tables.

13. What about other activities?

Our Berry Park is home to two playgrounds for your use. It also boasts a large grassy area perfect for games of your choice. Please do not leave the picnic/playground area without a farm guide. This is a working farm and as such it has inherent dangers that could potentially cause harm.

14. Is there a wagon ride?

All tours except the fall Corn Maze Tour include a hay wagon tour of the farm and a stop in the field.

15. Where are the restrooms located?

Our portable toilets and hand washing stations are located near the edge of the parking lot.

16. What about sanitation?

We keep hand sanitizer at the donut station, and on each hay wagon. The third stop on our educational tours is a visit with our "Barnyard Buddies". We ask that as groups leave this stop they go directly to our hand wash station and wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water before heading to their final stop, which is snack time.

17. Will there be other tours during our tour?

Possibly, our tours do overlap. Also, if you have a very small group we may pair another small group of the same grade with yours. Our Berry Park, with its picnic area and two playgrounds, is large enough to accommodate more than one group.

18. What about children with food or environment allergies?

A student with allergies is under the sole care of the teacher/parent/school. We bear no responsibility in regard to student allergies, nor do we provide an alternative snack.

19. What clothing is appropriate for the farm?

Children should wear comfortable, temperature appropriate clothing with practical shoes for walking on uneven field surfaces. Spring and Fall tours can be quite cool.

20. Are pets allowed at the farm?

No pets are allowed, for the health and safety of all our guests; except **trained** service dogs.

21. What if it rains?

In case of rain, we will contact you in the morning of the tour to let you know if your tour is canceled.

22. What if we have to cancel our tour?

Before you book your tour please check your schedule and make sure that day is available. We understand sometimes things don't work out as planned, however; cancellations take time and cost money. At this time we do not charge for cancellations but will consider charging if multiple cancellations occur.

If we happened to miss your question, please call us at 509-882-3200