

Tips and Reminders for your Oxbow Farm Adventure

Below is a resource guide to help prepare you for your field trip:

***Please email us immediately at education@oxbow.org if any details change prior to your visit.**

For urgent issues on the day of your event, please call our cell phone: 425-419-6068. (However, our farmers are often on tours, so communication is best handled in advance of your field trip day.)

The following information is important for a successful field trip! **Please read carefully:**

- Please be on time. We suggest that you arrive 10 minutes early in order to use the restrooms, eat a snack if needed, and take care of other business. If you are late, your tour time may be reduced, as other school groups will need our attention.
- Our tours take place outdoors, rain or shine! Check the forecast on your field trip day. Please have your students come dressed appropriately—this means shoes that can get wet/dirty no matter what! There is always dew on the grass. Have kids bring water bottles for hydration before the farm tour. Layers, sun protection and rain gear are also recommended.
- Please no electronic devices while on our tour. Photos are fine but we discourage use of cell phones or texting while on tour.
- You are welcome to picnic before or after your tour! Please let us know in advance of your field trip if you plan to stay or come early for a picnic. We have picnic tables for your use and we ask that you follow the “pack it in, pack it out” rule, so please bring trash & recycling bags for this purpose. We have sheltered spaces for you to enjoy your picnic. Lunch locations include: The Grape Grotto (partial cover), the pergolas (covered), and picnic benches adjacent to our outdoor kitchen (uncovered).

Location

Oxbow's address is **10819 Carnation-Duvall Rd NE**. Please pay careful attention to signage. Look for a large “Welcome to Oxbow” sign marking the new driveway. Other entrances used in past years will be CLOSED and may be difficult to back out of; please do not use any other entrances unless you've been specifically instructed to by Oxbow staff. NOTE: Google maps may take you to the incorrect entrance.

[Click for Directions to Visitor Entrance/Parking Instructions](#)

Once you arrive, please park cars/private vehicles in the grass lots, while buses/coaches should park in the gravel lot directly adjacent to the farm stand.

Payment Review

If you have not already paid during registration, please call 425-788-1134 ext.1 and pay via credit card over the phone, bring a check the day of your field trip, or mail a check to:

Oxbow Farm and Education Center

10819 Carnation-Duvall Rd Carnation, WA 98014

Reach us by phone: 425-788-1134 ext. 1

Reach us by email: education@oxbow.org

This is a 2-hour instructor-facilitated program where students experience the magic of the growing season your visit takes place in. These hands-on adventures open kids' eyes, ears, noses, and taste buds to the abundance of life - big and small - on our kid-friendly vegetable farm. Students are invited to participate in a seasonal farm activity, such as planting, weeding and/or harvesting!

Our programs are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Interested in learning more about your program and how we support new science standards? Standards alignment for any of our lessons can be provided upon request by emailing education@oxbow.org

Tips for Teachers and Chaperones

Our Oxbow Education team does their best to maintain a 12:1 student-to-Oxbow instructor ratio. Please be ready to divide large groups into smaller ones to keep this ratio. You know your students better than we do, so please form groups according to how your students will work best together.

Students will be invited to harvest and sample seasonally available produce. **Please make sure that our team has the most up to date information about your students' allergies, as well as medical or accessibility considerations.** You may email any updates to this information to education@oxbow.org.

We rely on chaperones to model engaged behavior, embrace experiences at the Kids' Farm, and help keep students (and plants) safe. On the next page, you will find Teacher and Chaperone Tips

About Oxbow: Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center inspires people to eat healthy, sustainably grown food and to steward our natural resources for future generations.

[Learn More about the Organization](#)

Any questions or concerns? Please "lettuce" know! Call 425-788-1134 ext.1 or email education@oxbow.org.

Hey Chaperones!

Welcome to Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center! We are grateful you could join us. Here are some ways you can support your students during our farm adventure:

- **Keep students safe.** *Help enforce safety rules shared by the farmer. Stay with your group at all times, or communicate with the instructor if you need to step away for a moment. Be mindful of roads and other potential hazards when traveling around the farm during and after our program.*
- **Save your questions.** *We'll be happy to answer personal gardening questions at the end of the field trip.*
- **Allow space for students to answer questions themselves—even if they don't know the answers!**
 - *Help ask other engaging questions. Some useful prompts are: "What makes you think that?" "What do you know about ____?" "What do you notice/observe?"*
- **Help students take restroom and water breaks as needed.** *Ideally, students should try to take care of these needs in advance of the tour, but if they need a break during the program please accompany them.*
- **Support harvesting.** *Remind students to use two hands to gently hold and pick plant parts.*
- **Gather students together.** *Whether keeping up with the group transitioning between activities, or forming a big circle, help students stick together.*
- **Supervise students.** *If students need to take a moment away from the group, that's OK – as long as they're safe and accompanied. Stay with them and help them re-engage when ready.*
- **Model engaged behavior.** *Step out of your comfort zone by tasting farm foods, touching worms, singing songs, and fly like birds or wiggle like worms when transitioning!*
- **Limit photography and phone use.** *Please don't let photography interfere with student engagement.*
- **Ensure that groups "Leave No Trace."** *Make sure students are packing out everything they packed in, and any waste ends up in its proper place, especially if staying for lunch or snack at Oxbow.*