



Botanical Garden of the Ozarks Field Trip FAQ

Planning

Q: What does a field trip include?

A: A field trip at the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks is a 60-90 minute educational experience. It includes general garden information and utilizes the Garden as a teaching tool to explore various scientific topics. Depending on the type of field trip, subjects may include vegetables, plant adaptations, life cycles, butterflies, pollination, and native plants.

Q: How do I schedule a field trip?

A: To schedule a field trip, please visit our website and complete the Field Trip Request form. You can also contact us via email at programs@bgozarks.org or call (479) 750-2620.

Q: Will I receive a confirmation for my field trip?

A: Yes, a representative from the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks will contact you to confirm your field trip. If you schedule online, you will receive an email confirmation from programs@bgozarks.org. Please note that the date requested in the Field Trip Request form is not guaranteed until confirmed.

Q: Is there a maximum capacity for a field trip?

A: The Garden can accommodate up to six classes, or approximately 130 students. For smaller groups, a tour guide will lead the class. For larger groups, stations will be created, so students can rotate through different areas. Guides can provide tours of specific gardens, the greenhouse, butterfly house, or bird blind. Station field trips include short environmental science lessons and activities.

Q: How many teachers and chaperones are required?

A: We require one teacher and one chaperone to stay with each class at all times. Although the Garden provides tour guides and volunteers, it is essential that teachers and chaperones remain with their students. For multiple classes, each class should have at least one teacher and one chaperone. No group of students should be left unattended.

Q: What if my group has to reschedule or cancel due to inclement weather?

A: A representative from the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks will contact you if the weather is unfavorable to discuss rescheduling or canceling. Light rain typically does not affect field trips, but trips will be rescheduled or canceled in the event of lightning. Contact programs@bgozarks.org for cancellations or rescheduling.



Q: Day-of cancellations and no-shows:

A: Please contact programs@bgozarks.org for details of our cancellation and no-show policies.

Q: Can we visit the Butterfly House?

A: Depending on the date and size of your field trip, you may be able to visit the Butterfly House. The butterflies are active from May through September. Outside of these months, we can include a butterfly lesson as part of your field trip, but the Butterfly House will not have active butterflies.

Q: May homeschool groups schedule field trips?

A: Yes, we offer field trips to homeschool groups, school groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, special needs groups (adults or children), transitional housing organizations for youths, after-school programs, and alternative learning organizations.

Q: Is the Garden accessible for users of wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, etc?

A: The Garden features paved paths and dirt paths, with a ramp to bypass any stairs. Additionally, we offer sensory-friendly bags, which include items like sunglasses and fidget toys. These bags may be checked out from the Admissions Office at no charge.

Payment

Q: What forms of payment does the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks accept?

A: Payments may be made by cash, card, or check before or upon arrival. You will receive an invoice via email before your scheduled field trip date. If your school requires a purchase order, please email programs@bgozarks.org. If paying upon arrival, please visit the Admissions Office to complete your payment. Extra chaperones may visit the Admissions Office to purchase their tickets.

Q: What is the pricing for a field trip?

A: Pricing varies based on the number of classes and the type of field trip. Visit our website for more information.

Q: Are chaperones and teachers required to pay?

A: One teacher and one chaperone per class are included in the field trip pricing. For example, if five classes are attending, five teachers and five chaperones are included. Additional chaperones and teachers will purchase general admission tickets at the Admissions Office. Entry is complimentary for Teacher Aides and paraprofessionals.

Q: May a chaperone bring a sibling of a student attending the field trip?



A: Yes, a chaperone may bring a sibling, but a general admission ticket is required. Please alert programs@bgozarks.org if a sibling is attending an upcoming field trip.

Arrival

Q: Where should buses park?

A: Buses must park in the meadow parking lot south of the BGO parking lot, on the grass. Students will walk the trail to the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks main entrance where a representative will greet you.

Q: Where should we park if we are not arriving by bus?

A: Smaller field trips may park in the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks main parking lot. A representative will greet you upon your arrival.

Q: Where should chaperones park?

A: Chaperones may park in the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks main parking lot and will check in at the Admissions Office.

Q: When should we arrive?

A: Please arrive by the designated start time of your scheduled field trip. If you are running late, email programs@bgozarks.org or call (479) 750-2620.

Q: What happens when we arrive?

A: A Botanical Garden of the Ozarks representative will greet you at the main entrance and provide you with a schedule for your field trip.

Q: Are there restrooms?

A: Restrooms are available in the main building, along with water fountains. There are also porta-potties located in the back of the Garden. Students will have time to use the restroom at the beginning or end of the field trip.

Q: What are our lunch options?

A: Veterans Park, located at 4451 N Vantage Dr, Fayetteville, AR 72703, is a great place to have lunch before or after the field trip. For smaller field trips, you may be able to eat lunch in the Garden. Please email programs@bgozarks.org to discuss this option.

Q: What do we do when we are ready to leave?

A: At the end of your field trip, your guide will escort you back to the main entrance, where students may have a water and bathroom break before boarding the bus.