

# Happy Cow Creamery Rules/Tour Info

We're very excited about your upcoming tour! To make sure your tour is fun, safe, and educational, please prepare **children and adults** with the following rules (we know there's a lot of info. here but please **be sure to read it thoroughly**).

1. **Stay with your herd:** Teachers, parents and chaperones will be responsible for making sure all children stay with the group at all times. For the safety of everyone we also ask that there is no exploring around the farm without a tour guide. Forbes has named farms the fourth most dangerous work place in the United States. While we love to share our farm with you we need to make sure that we are doing it safely! There can be farm traffic and store traffic coming and going constantly so children should **never** be allowed to walk around the farm unattended by an adult.
2. **Trolley around:** Stay seated unless told otherwise by your guide when on the trolley. When we stop to talk about the fields, cows and equipment, you'll be able to move around and stand to see. The ride will not resume until everyone is seated. Please make sure all hands and objects are kept inside the trolley at all times. You will not be permitted to exit the trolley once inside the pastures' gates.
3. **Overdose of Vitamin D:** It doesn't take long for tender skin to burn so please make sure everyone is prepared to be outside in the sun with a lathering of sunscreen.
4. **Bring your own water!:** Stay hydrated! Bringing your own water is a great idea, as we have no water fountain available.
5. **People need to graze like cows:** We have been doing tours now for 10 years and we have seen our fair share of participants feel ill or pass out. The smell and the heat can sometimes be a bit much for one's senses. It is very important that the attendees have had something to eat and drink prior to the tour of the farm. Parents and teachers please make it a priority to make sure your children have something in their stomach before arriving for the tour. Intense heat and "dairy-air" is much easier to stomach when your stomach is full!
6. **Dress in layers!:** The tour is completely outdoors. Please dress appropriately. If the weather looks a little chilly, bundle up so you can enjoy the tour without your teeth chattering! The trolley can get very chilly when moving so you are more than welcome to bring a small blanket.
7. **While we take care of the cows, you take care of your 'lil piggies:** Please wear closed-toe shoes, tennis shoes, or boots. Remember, we haven't used chemicals on the farm in over 24 years so even the fire ants get a lucky break at Happy Cow!

## Some other things to consider:

- **Tour Length:** Generally our tour lasts about an hour long.
- **Picnic on the farm:** Your group is welcome to use the picnic area for lunch or a snack after the tour. We just ask that you share the space with others. Please make sure to leave the picnic area the way you found it.
- **Ice cream, you scream:** Paying attendees will be receiving a single-serve ice cream with their tour. Flavor choices are vanilla or chocolate. Ice cream flavor choices must be pre-determined and reflected on your confirmation form or in your email with Allie. Children 2 years of age and under will not receive free ice cream, however, extra ice creams may be ordered for the cost of \$1 per ice cream.
- **The early bird gets the worm:** To avoid missing part of the tour due to a late arrival, we ask that you ***arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the tour start time*** to allow for parking, unloading and registration.
- **Making New Friends:** When we book tours we like to share our farm with as many people as we can. Please know that if you are booking a tour for a group of less than 60 people there will most likely be another group or some single families touring with you. We do our absolute best to only group appropriately aged people together.
- **Restrooms:** We've conveniently placed 2 Porta-Potties next to the picnic area and another one near the barn/dry cow lot.

- **Bring a cooler so you can shop till you drop:** Adults may want to visit our store for farm-fresh milk, cheese, butter, ice cream and other items. Plan on bringing a cooler to stash all of your Happy Cow goodies in and we'll supply the ice for free!
- **Parking: Individual cars** will need to pull onto the grass to the right of the drive. A TOUR PARKING sign will be placed in this area. Please advise drivers to pull straight in and park perpendicular to the strawberry field and tour/picnic building. Please do not park parallel to the drive.  
**Busses do the loop-de-loop:** Busses will need to come down the drive and complete the loop around the customer parking area and the carport structure. There is a sign posted on a pole beside the picnic area that reads BUS PARKING that will be visible once the bus has completed the loop. This allows passengers and coolers to be unloaded near the picnic area.
- **Severe weather:** If there is a possibility of severe weather the day of your scheduled tour (thunder, lightening, high winds, heavy rain), it is likely that we will need to cancel the tour. In that case you will receive a phone call from an HCC Tour staff member alerting you to the fact that the tour has been cancelled. If you haven't received a call or you need to make a decision whether to come or not the evening before your tour, please call one of the phone numbers below until you reach a live person. We will usually still run tours with a light rain in the forecast,
- **GPS Directional Note:** Sometimes the good ole' Garmin gets us wrong. If you have entered the farm's address into your GPS and it says "You have arrived at your destination" but you are not on the farm, give us a call at the store and we'll help you find your way! (864) 243-9699
- **Allergies:** If you or one of your group's members has a food allergy or an insect bite allergy, please let your tour guide know ahead of time.

**864-444-5127    716-361-5191    864-243-9699**