

This document is meant to inform prospective educators and students about changes to our fall field trip season, outlining program changes, safety protocols, availability, and capacities. Any additional questions can be directed to the Registrar's Office at (630) 719-2468 or at registrar-ed@mortonarb.org.

The Morton Arboretum is currently reopening its grounds and buildings in phases, with adjusted hours and operations aimed at protecting public health during the ongoing response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. As everyone anticipates the beauty and science education available at the Arboretum this fall, the health and safety of guests and employees will remain of utmost importance. Please watch our [Know Before You Go](#) video before your arrival.

To ensure your well-being, entering and visiting the Arboretum for a field trip this fall will be different than usual:

PLANNING YOUR FIELD TRIP

The education team at The Morton Arboretum have put capacity limits in place based on state guidelines. This will help ensure the safety of our guests and staff.

- We will not be offering full-day programs, which includes labs and half-day guided/half-day self-guided trips.
- We are unable to accommodate lunch spaces for school groups.
- We can only schedule 50 students per school, per day, with a minimum of 10 students. If you would like to bring more than 50 students, you would need to schedule more than 1 day.
- For self-guided programs we have a capacity of 75 students on the West Side, 75 students on the East Side.
 - Self-guided backpack tours are not available at this time.
 - The Children's Garden and Maze Garden 75 students.
- We are limiting the number of adults on the field trip. We are allotting 2 free teachers/chaperones per 10 students. We cannot offer registration for extra adults at this time. State-required aides do **not** contribute to this count.
- Guided Programs only: Based on the # of students you are bringing, we will schedule staff for your guided program. Please group your students in groups of 10 or less, based on the # of guides scheduled for your program. This information is located on your confirmation statement.

DURING YOUR FIELD TRIP

Social distancing is essential for all who visit. Special measures have been put in place to ensure this onsite. Please be considerate of others by practicing social distancing around the Troll Hunt sculptures, and in other areas of the Arboretum, such as parking lots and on trails.

- Students should not attend the field trip if they are unwell.
- The students attending the field trip will be separated in groups of 10 students or less with 2 teacher/adult chaperones per group.
- Our Education Program Guides will wear a face mask or face shield during your program. The practice of social distancing and wearing face masks will be incorporated to your field trip to insure both student and staff safety.
- In case of inclement weather, indoor space is reserved in the Thornhill Education Center, where students and adults will be required to wear masks. As always, we will run your program, rain or shine, so please bring rain gear if the forecast looks soggy.
- Guests are asked to wear masks when within six feet of any others who did not arrive with them and at all times when indoors.
- Program content may be modified to reduce close contact of participants and allow for social distancing practices, as much as possible.

SANITIZATION

In addition to the guidelines outlined below, all materials will be sanitized before and after each use, and hand sanitizing gel will be available inside the Thornhill Education Center.

- Restrooms are being cleaned throughout the day and fully closed for 30 minutes every two hours for a sanitizing deep clean.
- Water fountains are turned off.
- Extra port-o-potties and handwashing stations are set up outside the Thornhill Shelter (Parking Lot 21-West Side), the bus lot near the Visitor's Center, Big Rock Visitor's Station (Parking Lot 13-East Side), and the Prairie Visitor Station (Parking Lot 25-West Side).