



Stratford Ecological Center Farm and Field Trip Program

CHECK LIST FOR YOUR FIELD TRIP TO STRATFORD

ARRIVAL: If you will be arriving later than your reserved time, please call and inform the Stratford office staff. When you arrive, the students may get off the bus and begin making a circle on the front lawn. It is helpful to us if the students are *not* divided into groups before they get here as we will divide them based on the number of guides leading that day. Based on the number of chaperones and groups, parents may not end up in their child's group, as we would like to have parents evenly dispersed.

LUNCHESES (if applicable): We encourage field trip participants to compost any remaining food from their lunches; a bucket will be provided. We explain composting to the students at the pre-visit, but as this may be a new concept for some, it would be helpful for teachers to discuss what is compostable and what is not, prior to the field trip. We also encourage no-garbage lunches. (A hand-out will be provided.) All groups are required to carry out any trash they bring as part of the student's lunches. Groups are welcome to have lunch on the front lawn, at the picnic tables, and in the gazebo. If it is raining, children will eat indoors; however we ask that muddy shoes be taken off in the foyer.

RAIN: Stratford operates rain or shine. Please check the weather forecast the day before your visit and advise your students to bring rain gear if rain is forecasted. In the case of a thunderstorm, the field trip will be cancelled and rescheduled for a later date (if one is available). If the field trip is already in progress and lightening occurs, we will complete the field trip indoors.

PARENTS: Parents are welcome to join us. We encourage parents to actively participate in the field trip. Please remind parents that Stratford is a safe place to explore and that the Farm and Nature Guide leading the group will set their own boundaries for the children according to their personal comfort level and Stratford's rules. Please limit parents to 1 per 6 students.

PAYMENT: Stratford accepts cash, checks, and purchase orders; we are unable to process credit cards. Our current fee is \$3.00 per person, per hour. Parent chaperones are required to pay the same fee as students. Payment will be received by April Hoy, Stratford's Field Trip Coordinator, on or before the date of your visit. Please have money from both students and parent chaperones collected and counted prior to your arrival.

You are permitted up to 5 absentees from your reserved number. You will be responsible for payment of the remaining reserved number.

For further information please contact April Hoy at (740) 363-2548 or secearthshare@aol.com.