

Willow Springs Garden School Program Details

Here you can find details about our school year program. Please read through it completely, many of your questions may be answered. We want you to be fully informed about all the details of class, and what you can do to help your child be prepared for class.

WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS:

Please make sure your child comes prepared to each class, equipped with:

- Backpack that has room to carry their food and water, and any other essentials that they may need. Please be sure it fits and is comfortable for them as each student will be responsible for carrying their own bag.
- At least 24 ounces of water in a container that is not made from glass.
- A healthy packed lunch and snack that will be suitable for their needs.
- Clothing that is appropriate for the weather, that they can comfortably move in and that can get dirty/wet.
- Any materials that are given for the class (example: journal, projects)

TARDINESS/ABSENCE:

Drop off - Please be on time when dropping off/picking up your child(ren). If you are going to be late, please give us a call/text. If you are consistently late we may discuss dropping you from the program if it creates a disruption for the rest of the class.

Pick up – Please be on time when picking up your child. If you are going to be more than a few minutes late, please give us a call/text. If you are consistently more than 10 minutes late in picking up your child, we may discuss dropping your child from the program, as we value our instructors time and they may have other engagements.

If you are going to miss a class, call/text/email us as soon as you can.

MAKE UP DAYS:

We do not provide any refunds for days missed, we cannot guarantee that a make up class will be possible. If your child misses a day and you wish to make it up, contact us first to see if arrangements are possible.

RAINY DAY POLICY:

Willow Springs Garden School honors the changing of the seasons and we value the lessons that come from all kinds of weather. We have several options for structures we can use on rainy days and we will be prepared to offer appropriate lessons and activities that follow the rhythms of the land and sky. It's always important that the kids come prepared with appropriate clothing and gear. We typically do not cancel class for average inclement weather, unless it is hazardous weather such as extreme high winds, lightning, poor AQI due to wildfire smoke, etc. If we have to cancel a class because of bad weather, we can not guarantee a make-up class nor refunds.

COLD/WET WEATHER CLOTHING:

“There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.”

- Base layers made from wool or synthetic fibers
- Pants/rain pants
- Warm jacket
- Warm hat
- Warm sock
- Boots/rain boots
- Layers are great so they can modify and regulate

EXTRA CLOTHING:

On days when kids may get wet either from rain in the winter or water play in the warmer months, please pack some extra clothes in a large ziplock bag. This is especially true for younger kids.

WARM WEATHER CLOTHING:

- Light colored breathable clothes
- Sunhat/sunglasses
- Sunscreen (apply before class)
- Sandals

HAZARDS:

- We operate out of a facility that runs heavy machinery on the property. While this machinery does not operate near where we will be having classes it's always important to be aware of the surroundings while on the property.
- We are an outdoor classroom and with that there will be many hazards that you would find in any outdoor setting like the park.
- Ticks, please check your kids each day after class to be sure they are free from ticks
- Snakes, we all know that rattlesnakes are prevalent in our area. We will always do our best to prepare our class spaces in the safest way possible but please always be aware of the possibility for snakes.
- Other hazards, because of the nature of outdoor education there can always be varying hazards about, such as: bees/wasps, ants, broken glass.
- We will teach situational awareness and always be on the lookout for potential hazards as the children's safety is our number one priority.

CONDUCT:

- At Willow Springs Garden School we strive to treat all living things with reverence and respect; the land, plants, animals and each other.
- We expect each of our students to uphold the same respect and reverence for each other, the farm and garden, and us as their teachers.
- If we have a student who is continuously being destructive and hurtful we will consider removing them from the program, no refunds will be issued in this circumstance.