

Tips to help in planning a wedding at Mt. Hood Organic Farms

Throughout the planning process, remember that the Farm is an outdoor facility. Even in the Apple House it can be breezy, so it is important to keep a few things in mind:

-Make sure votive for candles extend above the actual candle/ tea light so they will better stay lit. Candles are most effective in the later summer months when there is more night time hours.

-Use sturdy vases- the shorter and wider the better. If you are using mason jars, use large ones with a shorter arrangement. Make sure the flowers aren't too tall and top heavy to withstand a breeze. Small single flower and bud vases don't work very well on a windy day.

-The Farm sets up all tables and ceremony chairs and Ginger's staff and I set the tables and put out any favors, table numbers, menus, etc. I help in the arrangement of the dining tables and I set up the welcome table, favor table, table chart...Please refer to the packages section under Note from Cassandra to get a clearer picture of my duties.

-The Farm has tables and chair for 200. We have 25 rounds and a few 6' rectangular tables that can be used for a head table.

- Dining tables are 60" rounds. We use 6' rectangular tables for the Pond Bar, and various service tables: Dj, favors tables, and anywhere else additional tables are needed. Talk to me about special needs such as a table at the ceremony for a ritual, candle, programs, blessing tree, etc.... we have a few smaller ones for this.

-No set-up is to begin until the day of the event. **Vendors are to arrive after 1pm* to drop off or set up any décor or wedding items: flower deliveries, pa systems for band/Dj, drop off/ set up of cake, **NO EARLY VENODR ARRIVALS PLEASE! ...**

Saturday weddings Hair + Make-up are allowed on site starting at 11am.

-The ceremony time is 4 o'clock. Guests are asked to arrive *no earlier than 30 minutes prior* to the start of the ceremony. It is important to clarify your ceremony time on your invitations. If your guests arrive too early, the Farm is not set up yet and it makes for an uninviting atmosphere. The total event time is 6 hours and can end no later than 10pm.

-The Farm does NOT allow petal tossing. You can line the aisle with petals, but we do NOT allow full aisle scattering. A clean up fee may be incurred if petals are used. Every petal needs to be picked up at by the end of the cocktail hour. Please no tossing of confetti, feathers or rice. Lavender or bubbles is a nice alternative to these.

-We do NOT allow sparklers, sky candle lanterns and other open flames at the Farm for fire security reasons.

-A PA system is highly recommended at the ceremony site. Even a slight breeze can carry your voice away. This same system can be used by the band/ DJ/ iPod... see Ken Jacobs Productions in the referral list to rent the pa system.

-Rehearsal of the ceremony is held on Friday at the Farm. We ask that only the wedding party and parents attend the rehearsal since Friday is still a working day at the Farm. Saturday rehearsal time is 3pm. Sunday rehearsal time is 1pm.

Rehearsal typically lasts about 45 minutes to 1 hour. The ceremony rehearsal takes about 25 minutes and the décor, wine drop off about 20 minutes. **Please note that there is a \$50. charge if the rehearsal takes more than 1.25 hours.*

- All décor, alcohol, and cases of wine should be delivered at the rehearsal time. It's important for me to know everything that is involved with the set up of your day prior to the day of your wedding!

Deliveries on the wedding day need to occur before 3 o'clock to insure that we have enough time to get it where it needs to go before the wedding festivities begin!

-If you choose to have a specialty cocktail, this is only served during the cocktail time. Beer and wine is served throughout the event. Please let Ginger know what drink you are thinking about, so she can rent an appropriate cocktail glass. Please note that it is your responsibility to bring the mix or juice for the specialty cocktail, alcohol and fruit for the garnish. The bartenders will cut your garnish, but you must supply it.

* Please supply us with YOUR favorite drink recipe so the bartenders can make sure to mix the drinks according to your specifications.

- The Cottages are available to the Bride and Bridal party to get ready. The girl's cottage can comfortably have 6 people total. The guy's cottage is much smaller and can hold about 4 people. It's best to come to the Farm fairly ready and just get dressed there. This is especially true for the bridal attendants. The cottages need to be cleared out by 6pm for cleaning.

- We will have all your décor and leftover beer + wine packed and ready to load at the Apple House by around 10:15pm. You can designate someone to pull around and load it up at that time. Everything must be cleared out and cleaned up the night of your wedding by 10:45pm. *Everything you bring on the property needs to leave with you at the end of the night. This includes boxes and other packaging used for transporting items likes dessert and décor items.* We do not have a dumpster or trash receptacle on the property. The bartender will recycle your wine bottles and Ginger takes all food related trash.

-If you are staying at the Farm, check out time is 10am the morning after your event.