



Old McDonald's Farm, Inc.

A Non-Profit Children's Program • Est. 1994

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Parent/Guardian Reminder For The Summer Programs and the Jr. Vet. Program Week(s)!!

Check your dates! It is a bummer when families show up for the wrong week. It happens every summer. Triple check your dates. Thanks.

Below are things you should know:

* Find directions at www.OldMcDonaldsFarm.org. Use our directions please.

* We do not transport kids on Monday mornings. Please bring your students out to Corbett on Mondays at 8.30 a.m. "Grey Shirt" teenage staff join us then also please.

* Yes, we do transport kids on Monday afternoons.

* **If you are transporting during the week:** Please meet us at the Farm Program at 8:30 each morning & 2:50 each afternoon if you are driving your child. Please go to our web site, www.OldMcDonaldsFarm.org and on the top, right of our Home Page, click on Directions. Google Map is wrong. Use our directions.

* **Taking our OMF, Inc. Bus during the week:** **On Monday afternoons, please meet our bus for Old McDonald's Farm, Inc. (OMF) at Concorde Career College, 1425 NE Irving St, Portland OR 97232. This is south of**

Interstate 84. Please **do not** go to the old Concordia University in north Portland! Enter on NE 15th/Irving where it is paved. Head north under the building and then turn right. Head east to the back of the property away from all those buildings. Look for our bus and the really big, old tree in the middle. Concorde Career College has kindly offered this drop off/pick up space to us but please be respectful and do not linger there please because we do not want to take up their student parking. They have asked us to drive slowly and watch out for the young people. Please drive super slowly and be careful as it is tight in under the buildings and there could be pedestrians. **DO NOT DRIVE DOWN THE GRAVEL ROAD AT CONCORDE COLLEGE.** There is no access for parents on the gravel road even though our OMF, Inc. bus will drive on it. If parents drive on the gravel road, we may lose this parking privilege at Concorde. (The bus is too tall to fit under the buildings.)

* Please do not be late! Bus times are 7:50 a.m. (parent drop off) and 3:30 p.m. (parent pick up) for The Summer Programs and Jr. Vet. Program Week. Thursdays are different! **We do not transport on Monday mornings nor Thursday afternoons. Please bring your kids out Monday mornings to our Farm Program in Corbett and then please come Thursdays at 2:00 sharp. Join us in Corbett at our Farm Program from 2.00-3.00ish on Thursdays for the kid's presentations. Students have been working all week to share it with you, so please do not be late. Friends and family are most welcome. No pets allowed please!**

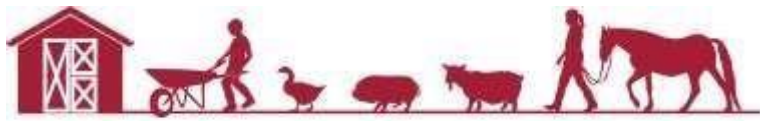
*****Students are not allowed to have mobile phones, watches or devices at our Farm Program.** Cell phones or other technology are HUGELY disruptive and are not allowed! Only "Grey Shirt" staff may have them out and use them for educational purposes and in case of an emergency, also. If, however, you have a health concern with your student, let us know in advance please. Otherwise, **no cell phones and no technology!**

Please Bring:

* Please bring **bike helmets** (or horse riding helmets if you have them) to ride horses Tuesday-Thursday for The Summer Programs only. No riding for Jr. Vet. Program weeks.

* Please bring well fitted, **garden gloves** or leather gloves to wear each day. (Do not bring ski gloves or dishwashing gloves please.) Get at BiMart or Fred Meyers.

* Students must wear **sturdy, tied-on shoes.** No open-toed, open-heeled or slotted shoes. They are unsafe on a farm, unsafe with big horses and yucky! Running shoes are not the safest shoes either. Sturdy, hiking boots are best.



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- * Wear layers! It is cool in Corbett in the mornings, **please have them wear a sweatshirt** or jacket each day...trust us, **THEY WILL NEED A SWEATSHIRT EVERY DAY** even when it is hot later.
- * **Please bring a healthy lunch and water bottle every day and yes on Thursdays too.** We do not do food service.
- * Please have kids wear **LONG PANTS** each day! Wear long pants that go all the way down to shoes. Jeans are the best for protection against stinging nettles, getting scraped by a pitchfork, etc. **Capris pants, skirts, stretch pants or shorts are unsafe and not allowed!**
- * **Please have child's bangs pinned back SUPER SECURELY** and put hair in a ponytail each day, all week, **BOYS AND GIRLS.** Kids must be able to see well (all around them) to work with the animals and especially big horses. Kirby horse weighs 1,100 pounds. Kids need to see to move away from him. Plus, they will touch their faces more often if the students have hair flopping in their faces. We do not want bacteria or animals' manure on kids' faces. **DO THEIR HAIR PLEASE!** Please do their hair before you arrive so they won't touch their face. **Please do not make us be the "bad guys."** Kids fight us on this. **But, There is no fight!** Their hair must be pinned up with metal barrettes, braided up, hair band or crisscross bobby pins added. Our insurance company and we insist on it for safety for the students. Students are not welcome to join us if they do not have their hair pinned up and pulled back with a hair tie. We do not want your child getting hurt. Keep in mind, kids need to be able to put a bike or riding helmet over their hair style in order to ride horses. Please, a hair band at the back of the kids' neck is not "pinning" their hair back. Please do something extra with it in front by their foreheads too. **PLEASE GET THEIR HAIR OUT OF THEIR FACES, EVERY DAY, ALL WEEK!** Thanks in advance on that.
- * Please lube up with **sunscreen daily** and send with the student. We cannot apply but we will remind them.

What is happening on Thursdays?

Yes, we are doing our Thursday Parent Presentations! Friends and family are most welcome to join us on Thursday afternoons at 2.00 sharp please. We will end at 3 or 3:15 p.m. on Thursdays so please join us at the Farm Program in Corbett at 2:00 on Thursdays only. The students will have a presentation for you so come join us and hear all that they have learned during The Summer Programs or The Jr. Vet. Program. **We will not transport students back to Portland on Thursday afternoons!** Please do not be late or you will miss it. **Sorry, no pets!** A snack and ice water will be provided.

**Please bring something to share on Thursday afternoons at 2.00 such as fruit, cookies or whatever. Thanks on that.

What we are doing to keep your kids safe:

- Our Farm Program for children is located on a safe, secure 68-acre farm. We have lots of open space.
- Your kids will be mostly outside during the day.
- We serve only 18 kids each week and the same 18 kids all week.
- We will go over safety precautions with the students at the start of each week and remind them a lot.
- We will have numerous hand sanitizing stations throughout the Farm Program and will remind (and insist) that students use them regularly.
- We will make every effort to keep kids separated out.
- We will not play marshmallow tag (unfortunately).
- We will have kids hand sanitize and/or wash hands before they pet all animals and after.
- We will have kids use only their pens/pencils and clip boards and not share school supplies.
- We will also open up the windows and door to have an "open air" educational opportunity if we teach in the Schoolhouse. Our other teaching spots are essentially outside, just covered.
- We will ask students not to share food.
- We will clean and sanitize after each week of students.



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Our OMF, Inc. Bus:

- **Do not let the bus wait for you please. If you are not joining us, then call 503.695.3316.** We won't get the emails until too late. Do not email about this on the day of please. We are "old school!" Call please and leave a message, we will get it! Landline, no texts. Thanks.
- We will only transport 20-passengers on the bus. The bus windows will be open for good airflow also.
- Students must hand sanitizer before they board the bus.
- We will clean and sanitize the bus often.

What we are doing on really hot days at OMF, Inc.:

- OMF is in Corbett and is always cooler than in Portland, usually 5-10 degrees cooler.
- We end each day at 2.50, long before the hottest part of the day.
- We have lots of big, established trees and buildings for shade.
- We play water tag regularly on hot days.
- We encourage kids to drink lots and lots of water regularly. Please always send them with a water bottle, we can refill them.
- The bus is parked in the cool shade before we head out, always.
- We have squirt bottles on the bus so kids can squirt themselves.
- Kids do better in the heat than adults.
- We do not have concrete or black top out at OMF, Inc. to heat up and hold the heat.
- The heat has always been manageable. In 26 years, we have never had any trouble with too much heat or heat stroke for a student or an animal.

GREY SHIRTS! If you are a parent of a Student Summer Helper or a Student Camp Counselor (Grey Shirt), please send them on Monday morning with a filled out and signed **SSH/SCC Contract** that you have read in advance, filled out and signed also. They need to wear belts, watches, boots, etc. See the contract for more on what they need to bring. **Please print, fill out and bring the SSH/SCC contract with you or your student on Monday.** Please do not email it to us...bring it Monday morning. We thank you.

***If you are not joining us for the day or the week, please let us know! Do not let us wait and then have to call you please. We will call you! Please help our small non-profit with a small staff and let us know in advance. If your student misses a day, they will miss a lot and then be at a disadvantage both with skills and academically also. Please let us know early so we can open it up to another family if you cannot join us.**

Please plan to join us for an Open House in the spring. That helps the students to become familiar with or remind them of our Farm Program before they join us for the week in the summer.

Ask about the Day Visit Program or stay overnight during the Farmer For A Day Program. Plus, check out the Saturday One-Day Workshops or our 'Friday Farm Field Night Fun' in June or Harvest Festival in September. See them on the Home Page and sign up that way!

Thanks again for your interest and registration. We look forward to a lovely summer with your family.

Ms. Stephanie, M.A.T. Executive Director

Old McDonald's Farm, Inc.

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