



Gazebo Rental FAQs

Q: When do you begin to book?

A: We always begin to book Gazebos the first business day of March at 10AM. We only book within the current calendar year.

Q: How much does it cost to rent a Gazebo?

A: If you live “In Jurisdiction” the rental cost is \$270 rental + \$13.50 tax + \$100 refundable security deposit. If you live “Out of Jurisdiction” the rental cost is \$295 rental + \$14.75 tax + \$100 refundable security deposit.

Q: What are “In Jurisdiction” and “Out of Jurisdiction”?

A: In Jurisdiction refers to our membership jurisdictions. They are Arlington, Fairfax & Loudoun Counties and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church. If the bride or groom or the parents of the bride or groom live In Jurisdiction you qualify for that rate. If all of the individuals just mentioned live outside of those areas the Out of Jurisdiction rate applies.

Q: What are the capacities of the Gazebos?

A: The Lake Caroline Gazebo is 50. The Azalea Woods Gazebo is 80. The Hillside Gazebo is 120. All capacities are quoted as “in and around”. This means not all of the guest will be able to fit under the roof of the Gazebo.

Q: Is there seating?

A: There is pre-existing seating within the Gazebos. There’s also some benches close by each. But in each instance the majority of the guests would be standing. Keep in mind no additional seating is provided or allowed to be brought in. If you have live musicians they are permitted to bring in their own seat.

Q: What is included with the Gazebo rental?

A: You have exclusive use of the Gazebo you choose and you have exclusive use of the gardens as a bridal party. This means there will not be another bride or bridal party in the gardens during your rental period.

Q: Is there transportation?

A: No type of transportation is provided or allowed to be brought in. Everyone is expected to be able to make the walk to and from the Gazebo. Obviously handicapped guests are not subject to the “no transportation” policy. There is one wheelchair available at the Visitor Center (the main entrance) but it is first come first serve.

Q: How far are the Gazebos from the Visitor Center?

A: Each Gazebo is a different distance from the Visitor Center. The Azalea Woods Gazebo is about 80 yards. The Lake Caroline Gazebo is about 300 yards. The Hillside Gazebo is about 400 to 500 yards.

Q: What time blocks are available?

A: Available time blocks are dictated by other existing rentals which involve a bride. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens only allows one bride or bridal party on the grounds at a time. Also, there must be a two hour gap between the end of one rental involving a bride and the beginning of another. Please ask the Atrium Manager or Atrium Events Coordinator for specific availability.

Q: Is there a bride's room?

A: There is no bride's room available. Brides and bridal parties are more than welcome to utilize the public restrooms in the Visitor Center but exclusive use is prohibited.

Q: Can I schedule a rehearsal?

A: Rehearsals are subject to availability. The "In Jurisdiction" cost for a rehearsal is \$105.00. The "Out of Jurisdiction" cost is \$130. Rehearsals are scheduled for 2 hours.

Q: Is music permitted?

A: There are no electrical outlets at the Gazebos. Smaller musical instrumentation which requires no external A/C power source is allowed. Larger equipment such as pianos, organs, large batteries or power generators are prohibited. The volume of amplified music is solely at the discretion of Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

Q: Is food and/or drink permitted?

A: No food or drink of any kind is permitted within the gardens with the exception of bottled water.

Q: Is there a rain plan?

A: There is no guaranteed back up plan in case of rain. We highly recommend you form a back up plan off-site. Should this not be possible and rain is in the forecast please call and we will try to accommodate you and your guests in the Visitor Center or The Atrium. Once again, the possibility of this is not guaranteed. This accommodation is subject to availability and is only possible in the case of rain. The Atrium and Visitor Center may not be used under any other circumstances.

Q: What is the cancellation policy?

A: If you cancel your rental 60 days or more prior to your rental date you will receive a full refund. Also, if you had to cancel due to rain and we were not able to accommodate you may also receive a full refund. Notification of cancellation due to rain must be performed two weeks or less after your event date.

Q: Can the Gazebo be decorated?

A: Ribbons and flowers may be used to decorate the Gazebo. No tape, wire, screws, nails or other similar fasteners may be used. Gazebos may not be decorated prior to your rental period. Your guests may not throw rice, bird or grass seed or confetti. Flower petals and soap bubbles are permitted. Balloons, candles, fireworks are prohibited in the Gardens. All decorations must be removed by the end of your period.