

Photography Session Reservation Policy and Fees

Meadowlark Botanical Garden is owned and operated by NOVA Parks. A fee for staged photography is charged upon arrival to Meadowlark Botanical Gardens wherein the gardens or any portion of the grounds are used as a backdrop or scene for a photo session. This fee is directly supporting our gardens for you and your future visits.

We ask that all photography sessions be booked in advance to ensure you and your special occasions are captured seamlessly. To book a reservation, please call us at (703) 255-3631 ex 0. This is to include any session such as engagement, prom, maternity, graduation, and family. Please note, Wedding and Bridal Photography are handled exclusively through *the Atrium* Events Office. Reservations are still required and are at a different price point. Please call 703-255-3631 x105 or email atrium@nvrpa.org to book a Wedding or Bridal session.

For your convenience, the following is a list of parks within our agency that allow free photography on their grounds:

Gilbert's Corner Regional Park
23557 Watson Road
Leesburg, VA 20175

Telephone- 703-327-9777
Email- gilbertscorner@nvrpa.org

White's Ford Regional Park
43646 Hibler Road
Leesburg, VA 20176

Telephone- 703-779-9372
Email- templehall@nvrpa.org

Webb Nature Sanctuary
12829 Chestnut Street
Clifton, VA 20124

Telephone- 703-250-9124
Email- Fountainhead@NVRPA.org

Beaverdam
42400 Mt. Hope Road
Ashburn, VA 20148

Telephone- 703-327-3403
Email- dbetthauser@nvrpa.org

Scheduling and Sign-in:

Photo reservations are available every day of the week. The reservation includes a 2 hours session; all guests in a party will pay standard daily admission. Reservations always end 1 hour prior to the gardens closing time. We do limit the amount of photo reservations per day to ensure the gardens have ample space for the various sessions. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens does not provide a photographer or any additional assistance for your photography session. Staff reserves the right to refuse a photography session without a reservation.

Guests who have reserved *the Atrium* for their wedding events do not have the same reservation guidelines and will work exclusively with *the Atrium* Events Office for their reservation.

You are required to sign-in at the admissions desk. Upon arrival to the Visitor Center, please pick up a red photo pass, sign in, and do a final review of these rules. The red photo pass must be visible at all times and turned in when you leave.

Restrictions:

Please be aware we are unable to close off or restrict access to any part of the garden for a photo reservation. Sessions may not take place in the Visitor Center, or the Conservatory due to limited space. There is no photography in or around *the Atrium* during events or during our holiday light show.

Our Reservations are in two hour increments and we allow only one session per photographer per day. All reservations end one hour prior to the gardens closing. Please refer to our hours of operation on our main page. No adjustment to reservation times will be made due to late arrival.

We ask that all photographers be careful and courteous of guests and do not block pathways or obstruct views. No photography or set up is to take place within the garden beds at any time.

Garden employees are not available to assist in any way with a photography session.

All Wedding/Bridal Photography must be scheduled through *the Atrium* Events Office. As *the Atrium*, our premier wedding venue, is within the Gardens, as a courtesy to the bride-to-be, we allow only one bride or bridal gown on the grounds at any given time. Any guest within a party that arrives unreserved or unknown to *the Atrium* Events Office, in attire that resembles a wedding gown of any kind will be directed to *the Atrium* Events Office, or will be asked to come at a later date.

All video filming must be approved by garden management prior to reservation. The use of drones is not permitted on grounds. Video reservations are subject to an additional fee.

Fees:

Photography Session	\$25.00
Additional Time (by the hour)	\$25.00

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Is the primary purpose of your visit to capture photos of your family or group?
- Are you wearing formal attire/costume/wedding attire?
- Will a photographer (professional or hobbyist) be accompanying you to take the photos?

If you answered “YES” to any one of these questions, you must make a prior reservation.

Call us at (703) 255-3631 x0

If you are interested in a Wedding or Bridal shoot, you must make a prior reservation.

Call us at (703) 255 3631 x105 or Email at atrium@nvrpa.org

What do I get for my photo permit?

Your two-hour photography session reservation gets you non-exclusive access to our outdoor garden areas. The Mediterranean Greenhouse is not available for portrait/formal photography.

How far in advance do I need to reserve my photoshoot?

You can reserve your photoshoot any time prior to your photo session. We recommend at least two weeks to ensure you get the date and time you wish without any conflict.

Can I just walk in for a photoshoot without a reservation?

Please don't! We recommend booking your session in advance to guarantee that you get the date and time you want, and that your session does not conflict with other events. We cannot guarantee access to the Gardens for photoshoots on a walk-in basis, due to other scheduled photoshoots or events. An additional Fee may be added for walk in Photo Sessions.

What if it rains or I need to reschedule?

We understand scheduling an outdoor photo session can be tricky. If you need to reschedule a photo session for any reason, simply give us a call at 703-255-3631 and we will help you move your session to a different date.

Can I bring props or furniture for my photo session?

You are welcome to bring as many costume pieces and hand-held props as you like for your photo shoot. Any free-standing, floating materials, such as tables, chairs, clothing racks, free-standing arches, balloons or flying lanterns are not allowed. Live Animals (not including vested service animals) are not permitted as part of a photoshoot.

Do you allow before/after hour reservations for sunrise/sunset sessions?

We do not allow any photography sessions within the gardens outside of our normal operating hours. Alternatively, we have an open picnic area outside of the gardens that has served as a great location for sunrise/sunset sessions

Photographer Registration:

If you intend to use Meadowlark Botanical Gardens as one of your frequent outdoor studio locations, we ask that you register with us for possible future perks.

Photographer Registration:

Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Photography Insurance Company: _____

Type of Vehicle: _____

License Number & State: _____

Website: _____

Social Media: _____