



Birthday Parties at Riverbend

Riverbend Birthday Party Policies and FAQs

What happens during the party?

The educators will have a schedule in mind but will go over it with you when you arrive in case you want to make changes.

Typically the program goes as follows:

- Guests arrive and educators do an introduction
- Hands-on process art
- Games
- A short hike
- Outdoor Exploration
- Return to barn to meet an animal of the birthday child's choosing
- The remaining time is reserved for food

What time may we arrive to set up?

- We ask that your family arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the party for set up and checking in with the educators. You will also have 30 minutes after the party ends for cleanup. Please plan to bring all party supplies home with you.
- During set up and clean up, it is possible to drive your car up to the barn but there is no space to turn around. Our educators can assist with backing up the vehicle. We also have wagons to help carry supplies to and from the parking lot.

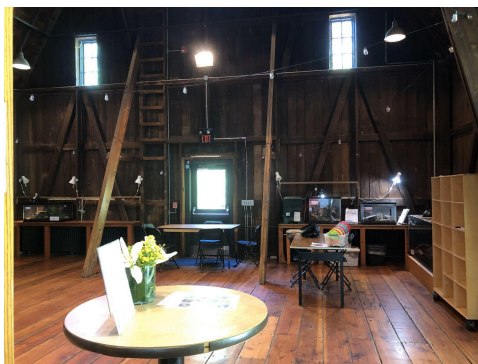
May we decorate?

- Yes!
- Since we are an environmental education center, we encourage low waste and compostable/recyclable decorations and tableware (please refer to [Green Paper Products](#) for examples).
- We provide tables covered with craft paper and crayons for children to draw. In addition, we have a rug and a large, gender neutral "Happy Birthday" banner.

Please note: In order to protect our native wildlife, balloons are not permitted at Riverbend.



- Here are pictures of our barn space:



Do you supply food or beverages?

Our parties are DIY and therefore we do not supply food or beverages. For insurance purposes, Riverbend has a strict no alcohol policy during birthday parties. You will have access to our kitchenette including refrigerator space, oven, and small freezer space. Many families choose to order pizza which can be delivered right to the barn. We recommend calling in advance to schedule your order, especially if you have an early birthday or Sunday party. For ease, we recommend ordering the pizza to arrive at the beginning of the party.

We recommend the following pizza places:

Tony and Joe's
201 Fayette St Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-825-1160

Zesto Pizza
908 Conestoga Road Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
610-527-8500

We also are encouraging the limiting of food waste. Please take this into consideration when ordering/bringing food to the party. Any leftovers should be packed out and taken away. The party attendant will direct you to the proper bins for limited trash and recycling.



How many children may we bring?

Each of our packages has a maximum child limit (15, 20, 25 or 40 children). Any child that will be participating in the program (siblings or family) count in the child limit.

If you are interested in a party that isn't described by our packages and themes, please contact us to discuss barn rentals and customized events.

Are caregivers permitted to stay?

Caregivers may stay for the party if they feel their child would benefit from their presence. We request that all adults are respectful of staff and not interfere or detract from the program.

What should be included in the party invitation?

- Please remind your guests to dress for outdoor weather conditions (sun protection, bug spray, layers etc.)
- It's helpful to give directions about how guests can find the party: they can park in our lot and walk up the hill to the big red barn.

What if the weather is bad?

- In the event of bad weather, we make every effort to complete as much of the program outdoors as possible. Otherwise, we will relocate party activities indoors in the barn or covered outdoor classroom.
- In the event of snow, Riverbend will work with you to identify a snow date for your event.
- We reserve the right to postpone your party if the conditions are deemed unsafe.
- Riverbend will make decisions around weather-related changes no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled program.

What if I need to cancel my party?

Payment is due in full at the time of your party registration. If cancellations are received in writing at least one month prior to the date of the party, you will receive a 50% refund. We are unable to refund payments for cancellations made less than one month prior to the party date. However, staff will work with you to try to reschedule your party if possible.

What is the Riverbend preserve like?

The Riverbend preserve features a variety of habitats, including a stream, forested areas, a meadow and a few small ponds. The trail to the barn and surrounding area is paved but other trails have rocks and wood chips. The paths to the pond and forest area are up a hill. (Please see our [Trail Map](#) and [Accessibility Guide](#) for more information.)



Riverbend Birthday Party Policy:

- 1) The host family must accompany and supervise children during the entire educator-led program. You are responsible for the discipline of all children, which may include removing individuals from activities if they are not behaving properly. Running and/or yelling are not appropriate behaviors in the barn.
- 2) If caregivers are accompanying their child to the party they are there to supervise and manage their child(ren). Caregivers should be respectful of staff and not interfere or detract from the program. These expectations should be set up prior to the start of the birthday party as to not take away from the birthday child's experience.
- 3) I have read and agree with Riverbend's weather, snow and cancellation policy.
- 4) Alcohol is not permitted at the birthday party.
- 5) In the event that any damage is caused to Riverbend's buildings or facilities that goes beyond normal wear and tear, the cost of repair will be billed separately.
- 6) Host families must sign and return this agreement to finalize their birthday party reservation. Please scan/take a picture and email it to jboyer@riverbendeec.org

I have read and agree to abide by Riverbend's Birthday Party Policy.

Date

Signature