

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Deer Hollow Farm School Year Registration 2025-26

LOTTERY

Why is registration based on a lottery system?

Deer Hollow Farm is funded primarily by the City of Mountain View, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) and Santa Clara County. Part of the agreement between these three agencies includes giving Mountain View schools priority registration, followed by schools within both Santa Clara County and MROSD, then schools within either the County or MROSD, and then all others.

How does the lottery work?

Registration forms must be returned to Deer Hollow Farm or the Mountain View Recreation Division by Thursday, September 4 at 5:00 pm to be eligible for the lottery. Farm staff will hold a private lottery during the week of September 8, 2025. One-third of all available openings are reserved for schools located in Mountain View (Priority 1), one-third for schools located in both Santa Clara County and the MROSD (Priority 2) and one-third for schools located in either the County or the District (Priority 3). Registration forms that are not selected during each stage of the lottery will be mixed with the following Priority group. We will do our best to accommodate all of the requests, but if the schedule is filled you will be placed on a waitlist.

How many students can I register on each form?

If multiple classes from the same school, totaling 70 students or less, are signing up on the same day for the same class—only one form is needed. If you are planning to register more than 70 students, please complete an additional form with another Teacher's information.

CLASS CONFIRMATION

When will I receive confirmation that my class is registered?

Class contracts will be emailed to teachers by **Friday, October 3**. You will be notified by Farm staff during the week of September 8 if your class has been placed on a waitlist.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

When are classes offered?

Classes are offered every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from October 7 through May 21. There are no classes December 21 - January 7, the week of February 16, and the week of April 13. **Please note your school holidays, minimum and testing days** when selecting your preferred dates.

The class dates for each type of class are listed on the School Year Registration Form (Farm classes cover both the Farm & Garden and Fleece & Milk programs). We suggest choosing 15 dates that work best for you. Registration is through a lottery system, the more dates you choose, the more likely a date will be available when your school is selected.

CLASS FEES

How much does a class cost?

The following formula is used to determine the class fee. Location Fees are listed below. Fees reflect the primary funding sources of Deer Hollow Farm: City of Mountain View, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Santa Clara County.

$$\text{Class Fee} = \# \text{ hours} \times \# \text{ classes} \times \text{Location Fee}$$

Class fee example;

A Mountain View school attending a 2-hour Farm and Garden program with 3 classes will pay \$174.00

$$2 \text{ hours} \times 3 \text{ classes} \times \$29.00(\text{MV school fee}) = \$174.00$$

Location Fees

Priority 1: Schools in Mountain View	\$29.00 per hour per class
Priority 2: Schools in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, Palo Alto, Cupertino, Sunnyvale and surrounding and incorporated areas within the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) and Santa Clara County (County)	\$57.00 per hour per class
Priority 3: Schools in Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Atherton, Campbell, East Palo Alto, Milpitas, Redwood City, San Carlos, Santa Clara, San Jose, Woodside and surrounding and incorporated areas with the MROSD and the County	\$85.00 per hour per class
Priority 4: All other schools	\$117.00 per hour per class

When is payment due?

Payment must be received by **Friday, November 7, 2025**. Payment information will be included with the class contract. Checks are payable to the City of Mountain View. Credit card payments are accepted in person at the Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View.

TRANSPORTATION;

Can I drive to the Farm?

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District does not allow private vehicles to drive into the Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve. Students and parent volunteers must arrive by School Bus or park in the Rancho San Antonio County parking lot and walk a 1/2 mile to the Permit Lot. School Bus driving directions to the Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve Permit Lot are included in the Teacher Information packet, provided after registration.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Is my class eligible for a Friends of Deer Hollow Farm Class Scholarship?

Scholarship funds are available for schools with a minimum of 20% of the students participating in the Federal Lunch program. Eligibility for scholarship is automatic once verified from the California Department of Education website <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ad/files/sp.asp> using prior school year data.

For more information, please see the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm web site at www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org or contact them at bookkeeper@deerhollowfarmfriends.org.

Is a busing scholarship available?

Yes! Friends of Deer Hollow Farm is offering scholarships to those schools with a minimum of 20% of their students on the Federal Free and Reduced-Price Meal (FRPM) program. These scholarship awards will pay for both the class fees and the bus transportation with the assistance of a grant from the County of Santa Clara. There is a cap on the bus scholarship portion and the maximum reimbursement for any one day for a school is \$1,000.

For those not able to secure a district bus even by requesting as soon as registration is complete, we suggest looking into First Student Charter Bus Rental, <http://www.firstcharterbus.com>, whose rates for their traditional yellow buses have been within our cap in the past.

Teachers will be notified within a week after registration as to whether their school qualifies for a scholarship and the process for the bus portion. While class fees will be paid automatically, the bus scholarship will be paid upon submission of a copy of the busing invoice after the trip. Requests for busing reimbursements must be submitted to bookkeeper@deerhollowfarmfriends.org within 30-days after field trip date. Any scholarship questions should be emailed to bookkeeper@deerhollowfarmfriends.org