## The Wildflower Barn - Notes for Caterers

The Wildflower Barn welcomes caterers from all over the area to provide food services to our wonderful couples. We know every venue has different rules and we do have our own policies in place regarding catering. We hope this will help you better plan your day with us and meet the needs of your clients while at our venue.

## We have 2 venues, The Bluebonnet Barn and the Meadow Barn. There are 2 weddings every day, be sure to find out from your customer which venue they rented so you end up in the right place.

**Arrival:** A member of The Wildflower Barn staff will be present when you arrive to set up. We always introduce ourselves so that you have a point of contact with the venue. Our staffers are courteous and happy to have you on property as part of the wedding fun. Please treat them with the same kindness. Our staffers will be on site for the entire event and have sole discretion in determining if our policies are being met. If we ask something of you, we have a good reason for it – please respect our few rules.

**Unloading:** There is no direct vehicle access to the barns. Expect to have to transport your equipment up to 100ft. We do provide carts, but if you have your own cart then you will not have to wait on another vendor. There is an unloading area but after all equipment is brought inside please move your vehicle to a parking space (with the exception of Food Truck Caterers). The retention chain and/or other barriers will not be removed for you. Do not attempt to drive down the crushed granite walking paths to the barns. Do not drive in the woods to circumvent the retention chain or other barriers.

**Food Trucks:** We welcome food trucks on the property as a fun catering option for our couples. We do not have the power capacity to provide electricity to our food truck vendors. Please bring a generator, extension cords, and any other provisions you will need to adequately power your setup independent of our power grid. Food Trucks are welcome to park in the unloading zones for setup and food service. These zones are the closest you can drive up to the barns. Please do not to attempt to drive down our walking paths, remove, or circumvent barriers to park closer. Our On Site Facility Manager will gladly point out the best place for you to park your food truck. High profile vehicles, be aware of overhead trees. We are a naturalistic facility. Any tree damage will be billable. If your vehicle is over 29 feet in length we recommend a visit to our venue before booking with the couple to ensure you are comfortable driving your vehicle down the road.

**Setup:** We do not have kitchen facilities on site. On site cooking is not permitted without the expressed consent of The Wildflower Barn Staff prior to the event. There is no sink for cleaning dishes. The bathroom sinks may not be used for cleaning dishes as it will damage the septic system in place. Do not attempt to wash dishes with our watering hoses. Food may be scraped from plates into our trash cans but may not be washed on site. Do not scrape or pour any food items in the woods as this attracts wildlife to the area.

The Wildflower Barn does not provide catering tables or linens. Please discuss table needs with your clients so that they can place the appropriate order with their rental company prior to the event.

Potable water is available on site, the On Site Facility Manager can direct you to this water. We are not able to provide any containers to transport water. Water from the hose is not ideal for drinking water. If you do not wish to spend time filling water on site you are welcome to bring your own pre-filled containers.

Please do not place any equipment in our wildflower field, even if it is not wildflower season. These areas are clearly marked and if you have questions, our On Site Facility Manager will be glad to assist.

We do not keep extension cords or other similar items on site. Please bring everything you need for the day as we will not be able to assist with providing any equipment.

Please do not break tree branches, crush plants, or alter the grounds in any way to place your equipment. We have designed our space with you in mind, please respect our natural environment and landscaping.

Do not unplug lights or plug into our lights. The barn has several strings of lights to create a beautiful ambiance for our couples. Please do not unplug these lights to plug in your equipment. Also do not plug your equipment into the ends of these lights as it could cause a short that would result in us needing to replace entire light strings. The On Site Facility Manager is happy to show you where you can plug in with ample power available.

**Bar Service:** Caterers are welcome to provide a licensed and insured bartender for events. Bartenders are not permitted to place a tip jar or accept offered tips. We do not allow exchanges of cash for alcohol on our property, no exceptions. Cleanup time begins at 10pm with everyone out by 11pm. Please end bar service at an appropriate time to allow the party responsible for cleanup to do so.

**Vendor Visits:** If you have not been to our venue before, we invite you to set up an appointment for a tour. We will gladly show you the space. We can point out where all available plugs are located, show you the unloading zones, etc. We have found these tours often help in determining what your needs will be as a caterer the day of the wedding.

Whew that was a lot to get through. We know reading through rules can seem rather unfriendly. We assure you we are fun loving folks that are glad to meet you and build our vendor relationship with you. We appreciate your understanding of why these policies are in place. Now that all the unpleasantness is out of the way we look forward to a great wedding day with you!