

Field Trip Accessibility

Troy Historic Village makes every effort to be as accessible as possible to all of our visitors. There are, however, areas in our facility that some guests may find challenging. Most of these challenges can be overcome with advance notice and preparation. It is our goal to make your field trip enjoyable and accessible for everyone, and we are happy to make accommodations whenever possible. For your convenience, we have highlighted a few such areas.

If you have concerns about any of the following, please contact our education staff in advance of your visit to discuss how we can best accommodate your class. Please email YPD@THVmail.org or call 248-524-3570.

Physical Spaces

- Some of our historic buildings have steps leading up to their entrances; all of these buildings also have wheelchair accessible entries. Field trip programs always take place on the main floor.
- Some of our building thresholds may pose a challenge to visitors who use wheelchairs. These buildings include the Log Cabin, Print Shop, and Wagon Shop. We find that backing the wheelchair in works well.
- Visitors who use wheelchairs may have some difficulty in navigating the Print Shop. It is a small building and it may be difficult to fit both a wheelchair and a large class. We are happy to accommodate your group—let us know if you will need wheelchair space and we may be able to adjust the room's set-up accordingly.
- One-Room School / School 1880 programs' desks are bolted to the floor and most do not allow wheelchair access. There is ADA compliant center aisle, and the desks in the back of the school can accommodate a wheelchair.

Visual Impairments

- With advance notice, we can provide a unique tactile experience for visitors who are blind or have low vision. We will gladly make available a collection of touchable artifacts and objects that relate to the program content of your field trip.
- Some of the thresholds and stairs can be difficult for someone with low-vision to identify, especially when moving from a low-light building to outside. Having a designated person available to help guide them at these times is recommended.

Sensitivity to Smells

Please be aware that some historic buildings and programs have strong scents:

- Children's Chores / Pioneer Life programs are held in the Log Cabin. The Log Cabin has a strong smoky scent, especially when the fireplace is in use. There is usually a fire burning in the Log Cabin during field trip programs.
- The hot beeswax used in the Candles program has a strong scent.
- The Village smells slightly of coal smoke when our Wagon Shop is active. The Wagon Shop is rarely active during field trips.

Sensitivity to Sounds

Please be aware the following field trip programs are noisy:

- The Tin Punch program can be very loud when students are hammering. If a student is sensitive to loud noises, we can provide a quieter space for them to work.
- One-Room School / School 1880 programs can be loud when Mr. Norton or Miss Post raises their voice or knocks their stick on the floor or desk. Please let us know if you have a student who is sensitive to loud noises so that we can reduce these sounds.

Anxiety

- The Candles program allows students to dip candles in hot beeswax. Some students become nervous when they feel the heat near their hands. Our staff will take the time to explain the process, demonstrate it, and give the class safety reminders before they start dipping candles.
- One-Room School / School 1880 programs is taught by Mr. Norton or Miss Post in the style of the 1800s. They may be strict, raise their voice, or knock their stick on the desk or floor, and they will “punish” students in a period manner. Students may find this intimidating or upsetting. Please let us know if we should NOT single out a particular student.
- Children’s Chores / Pioneer Life programs typically feature a fire burning in the fireplace. The fire is safely contained and a fire extinguisher is close by. Seats are available in the back or near the door for students who feel anxious about the fire or who are sensitive to smoke.
- The Print Shop is a small building that could cause anxiety for visitors who are sensitive to tight spaces. The building does feature a covered porch should anyone in your class needs to step outside for a moment. Students who need to exit the building should be accompanied by a chaperone.

Allergens

- Children’s Chores / Pioneer Life programs usually feature a fire in the fireplace which produces smoke. The fire can be omitted if needed; let us know in advance.
- Children’s Chores / Pioneer Life programs can include making and eating butter on a cracker. Ingredients in these items may include potential allergens, such as gluten, dairy, and eggs. Teachers provide butter-making supplies, so you might be able to meet your students’ needs by selecting products without these or other allergens. Butter-making is optional; let us know if you would prefer not to make butter.
- The Candles program features beeswax. Gloves can be provided with advance notice.
- Many of our programs are held in buildings that are also used as lunch spaces. If a student has severe food allergies, please let us know so that we can deep clean the building to reduce the risk. Alternate lunch spaces can also be provided for a few students if necessary.
- Bees are sometimes present inside and outside of buildings, students with severe bee allergies should prepare accordingly.
- Please be aware that some portions of our programs are held outdoors, especially in the spring and fall. This can expose students to common outdoor allergens like dust, pollen, grass, insects, etc.