

# 2017 Pumpkin Giveaway

We are happy to announce that we have pumpkins this year! After a rainy July and August our pumpkin patch is in fact bursting with pumpkins. Please read the instructions below to register for this year's event. Please also make sure you read this year's "[Important Letter from Venetucci Farm Staff](#)" with an update on the farm, specifically the water on the farm, and please share all of the information with students and parents.

- In addition to our annual Pumpkins for Kids festival we will continue to offer a variety of classes for school groups of all ages throughout the fall. To learn more, please check out the following link: **School Programs:** <https://www.ppcf.org/venetucci-farm/>

**Pumpkin Give Away Field trips will be available on the following dates and times on a first come basis.**

<b>Thursday Oct 5</b>	<b>Friday Oct 6</b>	<b>Wednesday Oct 11</b>
9:00 – 10:30	9:00 – 10:30	9:00 – 10:30
10:00 – 11:30	10:00 – 11:30	10:00 – 11:30

In order that we can accommodate the maximum number of schools in the pikes peak region, **we are also asking that only pre-k, kindergarten and first grade classes request a visit.**

Groups with special needs, private & home school groups please contact: education coordinator, David Rudin: [drudin@ppcf.org](mailto:drudin@ppcf.org).

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## **Documents to Download:**

[Important Letter from Venetucci Farm Staff](#) to be shared with students and parents.

## For 2017 we have a simple registration process:

### To Register:

#### Step 1:

**D-11 Teachers**: Please contact Joan Sousa, [JOAN.SOUSA@d11.org](mailto:JOAN.SOUSA@d11.org) or call 520-2302.

**Widefield, D-3, Teachers**: contact Nelda Higly, WSD3 Transportation, 391-3541.

#### Step 2:

**Non-D-11/Widefield Teachers**: please email the following information to Education Coordinator, David Rudin, [drudin@ppcf.org](mailto:drudin@ppcf.org) :

- Teacher Name
- School Name and District
- Grade (preschool, kinder and 1<sup>st</sup> only please)
- # of children
- Teacher's email
- Teacher's contact phone no.
- **Please include three choices for date and time, specifying which is your #1, #2 and #3 choices. Every effort will be made to accommodate your group's request.**

*(Please check with your transportation department before sending this in to make sure transportation is available. If there are other teachers in your building planning on attending, please coordinate so that busses are full as we have a limit as to how many busses we can fit.)*

**PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION CLOSSES THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> AT 12PM**

Once I have assigned your class a date and time I will send out a confirmation via email, confirming that date and time.

#### Step 3:

#### **All Teachers**

***A Few Notes: Please review and share relevant info. with students and parents:***

- ***More Than Picking Pumpkins***: In addition to picking pumpkins, students will have the opportunity to learn about the gardens, animals and history of the farm on a self-guided tour aided by volunteer education docents.
- ***Arrival and Departure***: Plan on arriving at and departing from the farm no later than your scheduled time. This is important to insure

that other groups after yours have an opportunity to experience the farm as well.

- **Appropriate Clothing:** Close-toed shoes, socks, and blue jeans are the best way to avoid unpleasant encounters with cockleburrs. Also, we will be outside the entire time, so students should be prepared for the ever-changing Colorado weather. This should include hats on sunny days. **PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO BRING WATER BOTTLES AS WATER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS.**
- **Group Size & Child/Parent Ratio:** 12-15 students maximum, with 3-4 adults is ideal. Breaking up larger groups will help move groups more smoothly through stations.
- **Nametags:** All students should wear nametags with first and last name, school, and teacher on the off-chance that they get lost on the farm.
- **Parking:** Busses and cars will be parked in separate areas. **All vehicles will enter through St. Dominic's Church main entrance.** You will be directed to the appropriate parking area when you arrive.
- **Rain:** Due to the large number of students scheduled to come, your time is good rain, sun or snow. Unfortunately we will not be able to reschedule if you are unable to attend.
- **Plastic Bags:** Reusable cloth bags, backpacks or simply using your hands are the best way to carry pumpkins. Every year we pick up hundreds of plastic bags and pieces of plastic bags. These are a problem for the environment as well. Please use this as a teachable moment and encourage parents and kids to use more environmentally friendly alternatives to plastic bags.
- **Nick's Rule:** In order for all children to have the thrill of picking their own pumpkin Nick asked that all students carry out their own pumpkin from the field.
- **Additional Pumpkins:** While each student receives a complimentary pumpkin, a Pumpkin Stand selling additional pumpkins, may be open on the day of your visit if at all possible. Cash or Checks accepted.
- **Camera:** Be sure to bring a camera to snap a photo of your class next to the Venetucci wagon!
- **Respect:** Please be respectful and careful of the plants and animals, pick up your trash and be thankful for the opportunity to visit this farm thanks to the generosity of the Venetuccis, as well as all of the hard working farm staff that grow the vegetables and take care of the animals.

**Thanks for your help in making this year's pumpkin give-away a success!**

Sincerely,

Mr. David

David Rudin

Education Coordinator at Venetucci Farm

Pikes Peak Community Foundation

drudin@ppcf.org