

Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Photography/Video Policy
Ellington Agricultural Center

General Use – Ellington Agricultural Center is home to several state and federal agencies. The grounds and buildings are open and accessible first and foremost for the public and employees to conduct official state business. Parts of the grounds such as the greenway, hiking trail and iris garden are open for the enjoyment of the public.

Indoor Photography

Buildings under management of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, including the Moss Administration Building (Brentwood House) and Tennessee Agricultural Museum are working offices and open only for official business during normal operating hours. As such, commercial indoor photography, including bridal portraits, group photos, senior pictures and special event photos are NOT allowed. Amateur indoor photography at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum is subject to the discretion of the museum staff.

Outdoor Photography

Amateur photography is permitted outdoors as long as it is done while respecting others' privacy and as long as activities don't interfere with parking, traffic or access to buildings. Parking on the grass is NOT permitted.

Special conditions apply at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum, which includes educational pavilions and sheds, the farmhouse, gardens and log structures adjacent to and within site of the main museum building. Generally, outdoor amateur photography at the museum after hours and on weekends is permitted. Amateur photography during business hours and special events is subject to the discretion of the museum staff. In all circumstances, handling or moving outdoor artifacts and equipment is NOT permitted.

Handling or moving artifacts, climbing on equipment, littering, defacement of any surface, graffiti or vandalism of any type will not be tolerated! The area is patrolled by security and violators will be asked to leave and/or prosecuted for criminal activity. Please help us keep the museum and grounds safe and secure by reporting any suspicious activity to center security at 615-642-1972 or Metro Police at 615-862-8600. For 911 emergencies, the location reference is 404 Hogan Rd., Nashville

Commercial photography (including video shoots) is NOT permitted anywhere on the grounds during or after business hours without prior approval. Commercial photography includes photographers of parties of one or more individuals and photographers with multiple cameras and accessories such as reflectors, tri-pods, camera bags, props, etc. Offices and restrooms are NOT available for costume changes or to be used as dressing rooms and preparation areas for photo shoots.

Commercial shoots must be approved and scheduled through the Commissioner's Office at 615-837-5103 and may be subject to charges, proof of liability insurance and other requirements for using state property. Commercial production projects needing location scouting assistance should contact the Tennessee Film, Music and Entertainment Commission at 615-741-3456 or visit www.tn.gov/film.

Iris Garden – The iris garden and gazebo is maintained by the Middle Tennessee Iris Society. For group activities and other uses of this area, please contact Ginny Russell at 615-883-4338 weekdays between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. or on weekends, or email verussel@bellsouth.net.