

Battenfeld's & Covid

*****Lengthy but please read*****

The ongoing pandemic has altered many parts of our lives but we hope the tree farm experience and beautiful Christmas tree in your home will provide a sense of normalcy, togetherness, and unity for your family and friends. Battenfeld's Christmas Tree Farm is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for our customers, staff, and visitors. To ensure we have a safe and healthy workplace, we have developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our family, staff, and customers all have responsibility for helping execute this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 and maintain safety and health at our farm and community. We have developed this plan through guidance from the CDC, NY Dept of Agriculture, National Christmas Tree Assoc., and other sources. This plan is rooted in scientific consensus and information, not political perspectives.

We've worked hard to continue many of the farm activities and experiences you've enjoyed in previous years. However, in several cases we have altered how you'll experience them this year with an eye toward safety (details below). We sincerely thank you and want to provide a tree to your family this year, but you and your family's safety is our first priority. Thus, if you still feel uncomfortable with any of the activities, please refrain from participating in them.

**** These policies and plans are subject to change as new information becomes available ****

Before Arriving

If anyone in your group has Covid-19 or related symptoms or have been exposed to anyone with those conditions in the last 14 days, please do not come to the farm.

Saws

We encourage customers to bring their own saws to help minimize contact. If you don't not have a saw we will provide customers the opportunity to purchase their own upon arrival. Chainsaws **ARE** allowed!

Parking Lot

Please maintain the appropriate social distancing between cars. There will unfortunately be **NO TAILGATING** this year. We are as upset about this as you, but we are following the CDC guidelines. We request groups no larger than 10 in your party.

Face Masks

Although most of the farm activities are outside, we **REQUIRE** that customers wear masks at all times. This is for your safety as well as others around you. Our staff will wear face masks or neck buff/gaiter when within 6 feet of others.

Hand Sanitizer Stations

We will have hands-free hand sanitizer stations around the tree lot. The main ones will be located near the restrooms and outside of all buildings and tree barns.

Bathrooms

There will be port-a-lets available on site. Sanitizing stations will be available. As well as there will be daily cleanings.

“Pre-cut” Trees

We will offer “Pre-cut” trees for customers that want to limit their shopping time at the farm. Simply follow the signs posted to the new “Pre-cut” location and a staff member will assist you. **While supplies last**

Wagon Rides

Due to the confined space of the wagon, we will not be able to offer wagon rides this Christmas season. We sincerely apologize and looking forward to resume next year.

Santa

Unfortunately, we have decided not to have Santa at the farm this year. This was a very hard decision but it was a less-essential place where people would normally congregate and we could not create a safe place to interact with Santa. He'll be remaining at the North Pole this year.

Pets

Dogs are allowed. We ask you please keep them on a lease and keep them from socializing with others.

Concession Stand

Unfortunately, we can't feasibly oversee the concession stand with New York State Covid-19 guideline. The concession stand will be closed for this 2020 season.

Christmas Shoppe

The wreath barn will be open to a limited number of customers at a time. Social distancing will be enforced and there will be arrows to guide you through the building. We will be offering wreaths, garland, and ornaments/decorations.

"Tree Taxi" Service

We will continue to provide customers with a Tree Taxi service. Please allow employees room to work. They will provide you with a tag to retrieve your tree from the Bailing Barn.

Tie-On Area

Staff members will still be available to tie trees on customer vehicles this year. Our staff will wear a face mask or neck buff/gaiter when within 6 feet of customers and vehicles. Please allow employees the appropriate social distancing to work.

Decorating Wreaths

If you would like a bow changed or decorations added to a wreath, we are limiting the number of customers in the building so please be patient. If you'd like to plan ahead you may call or stop in the building before going to choose your tree, and we will have your wreath ready for you when you are leaving the farm.

Payment

Payment for trees will be collected at the exit of the farm. Exact change of \$75 per tree (\$70 with coupon) is preferred. We will have a wireless credit card machine available to minimize contact.