



NATURE CENTER RULES

There are general rules and regulations in place to make sure that your visit to the Broadlands Nature Center is a pleasant and safe experience. The animals that call the Nature Center home are sensitive to loud noises and sudden movement. We have had injured and frightened animals at times due to some choices of guests. Additionally, the Nature Center shares space with the

Broadlands Association office and provides services to residents both in person and over the phone which require a quiet office atmosphere. Additionally, a pleasant work environment is necessary for the staff to continue to carry out the day-to-day operations of the association. The primary purpose of the Broadlands Nature Center is to serve as an educational classroom. We offer a wide variety of programming in order to educate visitors of all ages. If you would like to request a program or a time for a class that you would like to see offered, please contact the Naturalist at Naturalist@BroadlandsHOA.com.

For the Nature Center to remain open to the public, the following policies have been adopted:

- Visitors are encouraged to participate in the scheduled group activities planned by the Naturalist. There are flyers around the Nature Center advertising activities and you may sign up to be a part of our once-a-week mailing outlining upcoming events and opportunities. The Broadlands Community Newsletter also lists many of these events.
- **IF YOU ARE A GROUP OF TEN OR MORE**—playgroup, meeting as a group of friends with multiple families, homeschool group, preschool group, or other entity that would be considered a group—**you must have scheduled a PAID program with the Naturalist at least two-days in advance.** Individual families coming at the same time as other individual families and forming a group are, by definition, an intentional group and must have a scheduled visiting time. We apologize for the inconvenience and want you to feel welcomed and come often to the Nature Center while at the same time maintaining a safe home for many life forms. **Please contact the Naturalist to schedule a time at Naturalist@BroadlandsHOA.com.**
- Individuals and individual families who are not participating in a scheduled activity do not need to make a reservation, but must sign in the log book upon entering the Nature Center.
- **NO RUNNING**—particularly not over the magical wooden bridge. This may cause our bunny to have a panic attack.
- **QUIET PLEASE**—For the benefit of other visitors, animals, and staff, please maintain respectful noise levels at all times. No screaming, screeching, or other loud noises to disturb the animals or fellow humans. **ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**
- Because we are not a triage-ready rehabilitation facility, **nature center staff cannot accept injured, orphaned or abandoned wildlife.** If you have an animal that you seek to aid please contact the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center at (540)837-9000.
- **NO TOUCHING**—For your safety and the safety of the animals, do not enter the animal habitats, touch or remove any of the animals. If you are interested in performing weekly animal care, please pick up a “Youth Naturalist” packet and we will oversee your training so that you can have this fully informed opportunity to pet and care for all animals at the Nature Center.
- **NO PETS**—leashed, carried, or otherwise.
- **NO FOOD OR DRINK**—imaginably torturous to the perhaps hungry animals stuck in glass terrariums! Picnicking is encouraged outdoors in the pavilion and lawn areas. Except for water or sports bottles, all food and drinks must remain outdoors. Obviously, dispose of litter in proper receptacles. Remove smelly litter (including diapers) to outdoor receptacles.

Failure to abide by the policies outlined will result in dismissal from the facility. Please remember that the Broadlands Nature Center is a place of education, a home to animals, and a professional workplace. To ensure this space can be all of these things we will have to ask you to leave if the policies are not followed. Please help us keep it clean and quiet by abiding by the rules in order to ensure its continued existence!

