



# Taltree Arboretum & Gardens

Main Entrance: 450 West 100 North

Valparaiso, IN 46385

219-462-0025 [www.taltree.org](http://www.taltree.org)

Email: [info@taltree.org](mailto:info@taltree.org)

## Guidelines for Interpretive Hikes

In order to help prepare for your trip to Taltree, we ask that you review the following information:

1. Please wear clothing suitable for inclement weather and hiking on uneven surfaces. We walk in all types of weather except thunderstorms when lightning is present.
2. Please have all participants wear walking shoes – no flip flops or sandals.
3. Bug spray is encouraged. Please provide for your participants.
4. Please inform your students that this is an extension of the classroom and not recess. We trust that teachers will take notes and in some fashion determine what their students learned and retained.
5. We request that teachers and chaperones maintain class discipline during the time they are at Taltree. Our docents are trained volunteers sharing their love of nature, our gardens and their knowledge of Taltree; they need attentive children to make the experience beneficial for all.
6. Please have participants bring reusable water bottles for drinking while on the trail.
7. For those schools bringing sack lunches, we ask that lunches remain on the bus until after the hikes and other activities are complete.
8. Please bring large trash bags to take lunch refuse back to the school. Due to the outdoor setting and an abundance of raccoons, all garbage must be removed from Taltree.
9. If you wish us to cover information of a specific topic to coincide with your current curriculum, please advise Taltree when the hike is scheduled.
10. Buses should park in the gravel lot. Please call Taltree's business office, 219-462-0025, if you will be late. We will not hold the docents beyond 20 minutes after the scheduled hike start time.
11. A non-refundable \$40 deposit must be received by Taltree a minimum of three (3) weeks before the hike date. Make check payable to *Taltree Arboretum & Gardens* and mail to: 71 North 500 West, Valparaiso, IN 46385. There is a \$4 fee per participant (students, teachers and/or chaperones) for groups of 20 or more, with the balance due on the date of the hike.

\*\* Taltree will attempt to accommodate any special needs with prior notification.

We trust these guidelines will help make your Taltree experience extraordinary.



**Taltree**  
arboretum & gardens®

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## Interpretive Hike Registration Form

Date of Hike: \_\_\_\_\_

Start time: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person & Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Nos.: Bus. (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Taltree? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. number of children: \_\_\_\_\_ Age/grade range: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. number of adults: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. total participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Game requested: YES / NO Special notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Hikes last approximately 1.5 hrs.**

Hike Example 1:            10 -11:30 am    Docent-led Interpretive Hike through Arboretum  
                                  11:30 am            Leisurely sack lunch break in pavilion area

Hike Example 2:            10 - 11:00 am    Docent-led Interpretive Hike through Arboretum  
                                  11 - 11:10 am    Break  
                                  11:15 - 11:45 am Docent-led educational game  
                                  11:45 am            Leisurely sack lunch break in pavilion area

Fees: \$5 per person for 1-19 people/\$4 per person for groups of 20+.

**\*\*A non-refundable \$40 deposit is necessary to secure your hike date. Deposit must be received a minimum of three (3) weeks prior to hike.** Balance is due on date of the hike – to be paid at Taltree’s entrance gatehouse. Hikes proceed rain or shine. If Taltree cancels due to extreme weather, deposit shall be returned.

Please make checks payable to *Taltree Arboretum & Gardens*. Please mail check and registration form to business address: Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 71 North 500 West, Valparaiso, IN 46385.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_