



Running Group Policy Overview

In order to protect the experience of all visitors enjoying the trails and gardens, the North Carolina Arboretum has established the following policies related to the way that running groups may access and use parking areas and property roads and trails for the purpose of training, and establishes fees for this use.

These policies are applicable to recreational runners, running camps, school athletic teams, and groups of runners in training for events. It does not apply to running events or activities planned in conjunction with an Arboretum hosted event.

Full policy is available for reference upon request, and inquiries may be directed to groups@ncarboretum.org.

Access Times : Runners may access the property while it is open to the general public.

- From April - October, property hours are 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. with incoming gates closing at 8:00 p.m.
- From November - March, hours may be reduced. Current hours of operation may be found by visiting the Arboretum's website, ncarboretum.org.

Parking : Parking fees (either advance purchased pass or daily fee) must be paid in order for any vehicle to enter the property, regardless of whether the vehicle is dropping off guests or will remain parked on-site. All buses associated with running group participants should park in the auxiliary lot, marked on the attached map.

Running Route : Running groups should use the route marked on the attached map.

- From Frederick Law Olmsted Way (off of which the designated parking area is located), runners should follow Greenhouse Way until it meets Wolf Branch Road, turning right and following Wolf Branch Road until it intersects with Bent Creek Road. Turn right onto Bent Creek Road.
- Bent Creek Road leads through the Forest Service gates, past the border of the Arboretum property, and continues toward Lake Powhatan.

- Runners should plan to be back through the Forest Service gate well before the property closes.

Access Fees

- **School Program Season Pass** : Sport and recreation programs sponsored by University of North Carolina campuses and/or public and private schools may register for a \$150 season pass for the purpose of training on the Arboretum's trails. This pass is valid for 12 months, and renewal is subject to approval by the Arboretum based upon compliance with Arboretum policies.

- **Flat-Rate Group Parking Fee**: Running groups are not required to purchase or hold a season pass. The North Carolina Arboretum offers flat-rate daily parking fees for group visits.

These fees must be prepaid and include parking for all vehicles associated with the registered group. We ask that groups give at least two weeks notice of their visit in order to qualify for flat-rate fees.

- 15-50 visitors: \$75.00 per day
- 51-100 visitors: \$110.00 per day
- 101+ visitors: \$175.00 per day

- **Daily Parking Fees** : Groups who are not pre-registered will be subject to standard daily parking fees.

- Personal/Standard Vehicle (up to 20' long): \$20
- Large vehicles (21'-29' long): \$60
- Busses and Oversize Vehicles (30' long+): \$125

Safety

- Runners/visitors under 16 years of age must be supervised by an adult. The adult must accompany the underage visitors on the trails
- For running groups that include at least one minor, the coach/adult chaperone is required to carry on their person a full roster, including emergency contact information for all runners in the group (minors and adults).
- Runners on Arboretum trails may encounter wildlife, insects (including bees, flies, mosquitos, gnats, etc.), high and low temperatures, humidity, rain, snow and wind. If an attendee is allergic to bees, they should be prepared with their own EpiPen or other antihistamine. The North Carolina Arboretum is not responsible for insect bites, stings, snake bites or other conditions that are a result of being outdoors.

Conduct

- Runners may only run two abreast on any trail route on Arboretum property.
- Stretching, warm-ups and other stationary activities must be performed in areas where visitors are not impacted.
- Runners should always be courteous towards other visitors, leaving at least half the width of the trail/road open and announcing their presence when passing.
- Runners should be fully clothed. Clothing must be worn that identifies the runner's team or organization affiliation.

Policy Violations : Complaints from members, visitors, and/or staff regarding running groups will be evaluated by Arboretum Executive Leadership to determine whether a policy violation has taken place. The first violation will be documented and shared with the coach and/or primary contact for the group. In addition, the principal or athletic/camp directors will be notified verbally. If a second violation occurs within three (3) months, notification will be provided in writing to the coach and/or primary contact as well as the principal or athletic or camp director, notifying all parties that the group will be suspended from use of the Arboretum as a training site, and the duration of that suspension which is at the discretion of Arboretum Executive Leadership. Suspensions will last for at least three (3) months, and pre-paid parking fees and annual passes will not be refunded. Groups may reapply for access after the suspension ends, but are not guaranteed approval.