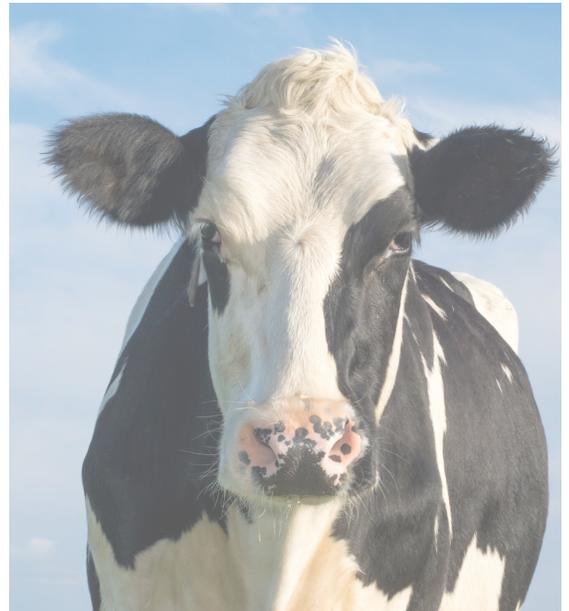


# A Family Guide to Exploring the Pennsylvania Farm Show

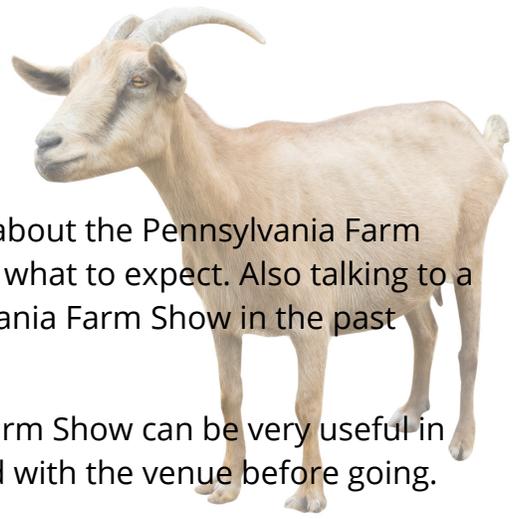
The 2020 Pennsylvania Farm Show provides opportunities for you and your family to learn and explore new and exciting experiences.

This resource can help you make the most of your visit!

For more early learning resources, visit [www.papromiseforchildren.com](http://www.papromiseforchildren.com)



# Preparing For Your Visit



Visit the website ([www.farmshow.pa.gov](http://www.farmshow.pa.gov)) and learn about the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Talk with your child so you and your child know what to expect. Also talking to a friend or family member who has visited the Pennsylvania Farm Show in the past maybe helpful to get some tips.

Watching a [YouTube video](#) about the Pennsylvania Farm Show can be very useful in preparing for your visit. Make sure you are well-versed with the venue before going. The availability of maps can help!

## Planning Your Visit

Planning your visit beforehand can make a difference in the overall enjoyment for you and your child. The Pennsylvania Farm Show begins January 3, 2020 and runs through January 11, 2020.

### Pick a Day and Time

Check out the schedule of daily events to see if there are any events or animals that you and your children are interested to see. There is no entrance fee to the farm show however some events are ticketed e.g. the First Frontier Rodeo Circuit Finals.

If your child has a particular interest, use the [Activities of Interest sheet](#) from PA's Promise for Children to locate the day, time and location to attend.

Not all activities may be listed, so check out the [Pennsylvania Farm Show Schedule](#) for additional information.

### Plan Some Activities

PA's Promise for Children has a list of fun early learning activities resources you and your child can use when exploring the Pennsylvania Farm Show, or even after you return from your visit! The free printable resources include *Five Senses at the Farm Show*, *Search at the Farm Show*, Book Recommendations, Early Learning Activities and more! Visit [www.papromiseforchildren.com](http://www.papromiseforchildren.com) and search for Farm Show for more information.

Take a look at the [map of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex](#) so you get an idea beforehand of where points of interest may be.



# Planning Your Visit

## Timing

There is a lot to see and experience, so give yourself ample time to explore the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Consider the possible scenarios of heavy traffic, challenging parking situations, waiting for the shuttle buses or large crowds. Allow enough time for your family to explore and enjoy the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

## Food

Even though there are plenty of fresh and delicious food choices, pack food if you or your child have dietary restrictions, if you'd rather not purchase food at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, or if you or your child have set mealtimes (as lines may be long to purchase food). You may bring drinks, food and baby formula for personal consumption into the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

## Clothing and Shoes

Make sure you and your child are dressed in comfortable and warm clothes and are wearing comfortable shoes as there is a lot of walking! There is a coat check service for a fee at Cameron and Maclay Lobby street entrance.

## Cash

Some vendors may only take cash, so make sure you have cash and don't have to wait in line to use the ATM. Also plan your budget for the day and talk to your child about it as well. There are plenty of food and toy options at the Pennsylvania Farm Show that will be of great interest for the kids.

## Wipes and Sanitizers

Wipes and sanitizers will come in handy after petting animals, eating donuts, or diapering. There are also hand sanitizer stations available throughout the Farm Show.

## Strollers and Wheelchairs

Strollers and wheelchairs are welcome, but it can get difficult to maneuver in busy crowds. Bring a stroller that is easy to fold as it will be useful if you use the free shuttle to get to the Pennsylvania Farm Show from the parking lot. There are also available free manual wheelchairs at the security desk on a first-come first-serve basis. Accessible ramps and entrances are available and can be located using [the maps](#).

## Medications

The Pennsylvania Farm Show features a variety of farm animals, so if you or your child is allergic to fur, dander, straw, hay or other items associated with farm animals, you should plan accordingly.



# Safely Exploring the Pennsylvania Farm Show



## **Bright Clothing**

Make a note of your child's outfits and preferably dress them in bright clothing so you can easily spot them in a crowd. Taking a picture of them before entering the Pennsylvania Farm Show is also helpful in case you lose sight of them and have to involve the Security management team to locate them.

## **Safety Tag**

Consider a tag with your name and phone number for your child, or write your name and phone number with a waterproof marker on your child's wrist.

## **Meet Up Spot**

As soon as you enter the Pennsylvania Farm Show, designate a meet up spot which is easy to find and not very crowded, in case you and your child get separated. Explain to your child what you would like them to do if such a situation arises.

## **Stay Alert and Vigilant**

Be extra cautious and vigilant to keep track of your child. Engage in conversations, hold hands and keep them close. Make sure your child is careful around animals as the animals can bite, kick or move quickly when frightened or startled. Often there will be the animal's owners close by who can let you know if it is safe or encouraged to touch the animals. Ask first!

## **Emergency Medical Management**

Emergency medical technicians and a medical doctor are on-site during show hours. Emergency medical stations are clearly marked. Security, Emergency and Lost & Found can be located at the Cameron Street Lobby and near the Small Arena. The First Aid Stations are available at the Small Arena and within the Giant® Exposition Hall.

## **Adult to Child Ratio**

The number of adults per child are important because it can get very difficult to keep track and manage children at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, as it is busy and crowded. Make sure you have enough support to manage your child so everyone can learn and enjoy at the Pennsylvania Farm Show without a crisis situation.

**Security and traffic management are provided by the Pennsylvania State Police. State troopers will be continually touring the show and can be reached on-site by calling 717-787-4171.**

# Parking at the Pennsylvania Farm Show



There is a \$15 parking fee at all Pennsylvania Farm Show complex-operated lots. Free round-trip shuttle service is available which also allows you to take your stroller to the venue as well. Accessible parking is also available at all parking lots.

There are three Visitor Drop Off locations at the Cameron Street Lobby, Maclay Street Lobby and Northwest Corner Expo Hall. You can drop off your child with a trusted adult to avoid long walking trips from the parking lot or shuttle bus to the venue.

Don't forget to write down or photograph your parking spot, as it can be difficult tracking your car with children in the cold.

## Restrooms, Diaper Changing, and Feeding Stations

Locate the restrooms using [the map](#) as soon as you enter the venue. There is a specific changing and feeding station located in the Cameron Street Lobby.

## Low-Stimulation Shelters

Low-stimulation shelters located throughout the Pennsylvania Farm Show complex are available for those with sensory challenges or who need quiet spaces when overwhelmed with the loud noises and smells.

For additional info, visit:

- [pafarmshowcomplex.pa.gov](http://pafarmshowcomplex.pa.gov)
- [adayinourshoes.com/pa-farm-show/#9\\_Tips\\_for\\_Special\\_Needs\\_and\\_Disabled\\_Families](http://adayinourshoes.com/pa-farm-show/#9_Tips_for_Special_Needs_and_Disabled_Families)
- [www.pennlive.com/entertainment/2016/01/farm\\_show\\_kids\\_visit\\_tips.html](http://www.pennlive.com/entertainment/2016/01/farm_show_kids_visit_tips.html)
- [harrisburg.macaronikid.com/articles/58264c9524d8f4da3aad352a/visiting-the-pa-farm-show-with-kids](http://harrisburg.macaronikid.com/articles/58264c9524d8f4da3aad352a/visiting-the-pa-farm-show-with-kids)

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