



Frequently Asked Questions

What dates are available?

Please see our online calendar at blandfordnaturecenter.org/rentals for dates that are available, booked and pending. You can also email rental@blandfordnaturecenter.org to see which dates are available.

What are the operating hours of the building?

Closed Sundays
Monday-Wednesday from 9:00 – 5:00 pm
Thursday from 9:00 – 7:00 pm
Friday from 9:00 – 5:00 pm
Saturday from 9:00 – 5:00 pm

What is your rental fee and what does it include?

The rental fee varies on the type of event you have, what day of the week you hold your event, and which facility you are interested in renting. The rental fee includes the rental of the venue, tables and chairs. *Rentals on Blandford Grounds do not include tables and chairs.*

What is the maximum number of guests each facility can hold?

Blandford Auditorium: Accommodate up to 125-150 guests depending on layout.

Blandford Grounds: Can accommodate upwards of 150+ guests.

Will the site visit be shared with another group?

Blandford Nature Center runs daily programs and hosts members and visitors. While there is no guarantee that you will not see visitors on the grounds, signage will be provided to keep visitors out of private rental facility areas.



Is there a minimum or maximum amount of hours for rentals? Are there any charges for overtime?

The timeframe that Blandford Nature Center has for rent depends on the type of event. When booking a date factor in time for load in, setup, the event and cleanup within the block of time allotted for your particular event. Special time arrangements can be made based on availability.

Full Wedding (Ceremony & Reception): Use of the facility for (11) eleven hours. This includes time to setup and clean up. A standard guideline is (4) four hour setup up, (5) five hour event and (1) one hour cleanup, but the time is yours to divide however you would like. Overtime fee is \$200.00 per hour and begins after the 11th hour. All events are to end at 11:00 pm - *this does not include time for cleanup*. Everyone must vacate the premise at midnight.

Reception: Use of the facility for (7) seven hours. The standard guidelines are a (2) two hour setup, (4) four hour reception, and (1) one hour cleanup, but the time is yours to divide however you would like. Overtime fee is \$200.00 per hour after the 7th hour.

Ceremony: Use of the facility for (4) four hours. This includes a (2) two hour setup, (1) one hour ceremony, and (1) one hour cleanup. Overtime fee is \$200.00 per hour after the 4th hour.

Other: All other events allotted time will be discussed prior to the signing of the contract.

Can I choose my own caterer?

Vault Catering & Events is the exclusive catering company for Blandford Nature Center.

Phone: (616) 454-3847

Web: cateredbyvault.com

Email: events@cateredbyvault.com

Can I bring in my own alcohol?

Alcohol must be provided by Vault Catering & Events. Renters must provide One Day Special Event Insurance.

How do I reserve Blandford Nature Center for my event?

To secure your date the refundable damage deposit and 50% of the rental fee is required, along with a signed contract. The remaining balance is required (2) two weeks prior to your event. In addition, the refundable damage deposit will be held and returned to you after the event if there are no damages accessed.



How can I come see the facility?

Please call or email the Rental & Event Manager to setup a site visit. You may also come during hours of operation (see first page), but there is no guarantee that the facility you are interested in seeing is available for viewing.

Are candles or other open flames allowed?

Candles are prohibited; however, we allow battery-operated candles. There are no fireworks allowed on Blandford Nature Center property.

Are there limitations on decorations?

You are welcome to decorate the space to fit your needs with any decorations that can be removed, without harm to the venue. No nails, staples, push-pins, tapes or glue that leave sticky residue. No glitter. No candles. No balloons.

If you would like to rent decorations please call or email the Rental & Event Manager to discuss options.

Is there smoking allowed on Blandford Nature Center's property?

There is a strict no smoking policy at Blandford Nature Center.

Is there a cancellation fee?

In the event of cancellation by the renter, a written notice to Blandford Nature Center must be submitted. If the rental cancellation occurs two weeks or more prior to the event, the Renter forfeits all deposits. If cancellation occurs within two weeks or less to the rental date, remaining balance must be paid.

Is Blandford Nature Center wheelchair accessible?

Yes, we are ADA approved in certain buildings. On our property we have quite a few historical buildings that we have not implemented structural change. Prior to signing the contract we will make sure you are aware which buildings are ADA approved.



Am I responsible for any cleaning of the facilities?

All items brought in by you, your vendors, or your guests will need to be removed. All the tables should be cleared. The kitchen and bar should be free of food and beverages and wiped down. After all the trash is gathered, the trash bags should be placed in the dumpster provided.

Do you offer All Inclusive Packages?

No, there are no overnight facilities on our property. If you are looking for an event package we do offer a wedding package (see page 1).

Can I come in earlier and decorate if I am having my ceremony at another venue without purchasing additional hours?

All hours must be consecutive. When you or your vendors arrive your *hours will begin, if you feel you need more time, please consult with the Rental & Events Manager.

Can I drop decorations off the day before my event?

No, Blandford Nature Center has many other programs going on every day and we cannot be held responsible for items left here.

Is there Wi-Fi provided on site?

In certain facilities we do provide basic Wi-Fi. The password will be given prior to your event.