

## **Howard County Conservancy Photography Policy and Annual Photography Pass**

The Howard County Conservancy's 232 acre farm provides a beautiful backdrop for photography. We welcome the opportunity to host photographers and their clients on the grounds, but we must **ensure minimal interruption of Conservancy events and damage to sensitive areas on the property**. We invest substantial funding and effort each year to ensure the grounds and buildings are maintained. To aid the many requests for posed photo shoots, the Conservancy has implemented an Annual Photography Pass. Fees collected from the Annual Photography Pass directly support these efforts. All fees collected are non-refundable.

For the purpose of this policy, a Professional Photographer is defined as someone who is being paid to take photographs on the Conservancy property. This includes amateurs acting in the role of professional photographer. Photography Passes are not required by professional photographers during the time period their client has rented the Conservancy facilities for special events.

Conservancy events and rentals receive priority access and no other photo shoots can take place at those times. Occasionally, a Conservancy event may not be listed on the calendar but will receive priority, in which case, photographers may be asked to move to another location on the property. After registering for the annual pass, photographers will receive access to a Conservancy Events Calendar. Photographers must review this calendar regularly and avoid photo shoots during Conservancy Events, including Conservancy rentals. Should you arrive for your photo shoot during a scheduled Conservancy event, you will not be permitted to proceed with your shoot. We will not limit the number of photo shoots during non-Conservancy event times, so please be professional and courteous with other photo shoots which may be taking place at the same time. There are many beautiful locations on the 232 preserved acres at the Howard County Conservancy for your photo shoot. Please note all content of the photo sessions must be consistent with our family friendly location. Any photo shoots that staff deem inappropriate will be asked to leave the grounds and will lose their photography pass.

### **Site Use Rules & Regulations:**

1. Please **be respectful** of the property and other guests at all times.
2. **Parking is permitted only in the paved parking lot**. Overflow parking is located in the front field and marked with signage. Photographer and client cars may not block driveways, park along the driveway or block access areas.
3. **Your Photography Pass MUST be visible at all times** while shooting on our grounds. It must be worn outside jackets or on your camera bag so staff can see it from a distance.
4. **No Conservancy equipment may be moved** for a photo shoot, including benches, hay/straw bales, or tree stumps. Limited small props are allowed to be brought onsite for use during the photo session and must be removed when finished. No confetti, balloons, streamers, glitter, sequins, or such are allowed.

5. Photo equipment and models should not block any pathways, driveways or building entrances.
6. Climbing or mounting equipment in trees or on buildings is not permitted.
7. No candles or open flame permitted as props on the grounds.
8. While dogs are allowed on the grounds, they must be leashed at all times and cleaned up after.
9. Assure all areas used during the photoshoot are left in their original condition.
10. The Conservancy reserves the right to deny access to specific areas for photography purposes.
11. Please note for your safety that Montjoy Barn is a historical structure with low hanging beams and rough barn flooring.
12. Use of the Conservancy property is at your own risk.
13. Annual Photography Passes cover the calendar year and expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Howard County Conservancy staff and volunteers may request to see your Photographers Pass while on the grounds. Please assure this is visible to staff from a distance or your session may be interrupted by staff inquiring to see your Annual Pass. A Photographer's Pass may be suspended for disregarding the site use rules.

#### Waiver

Photographer and their assistants, clients and models will be responsible for adhering to the Site Rules during use of the Conservancy property. It is understood that the Howard County Conservancy and its directors, officers, agents, representatives and employees shall not be liable for injury to persons or property occurring in or about the premises from any cause whatsoever. The undersigned will indemnify the Howard County Conservancy and their directors, officers, agents, representatives and employees and save it harmless from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, liability and expense in connection with injury to persons or property arising from the use or occupancy by photographer, their assistants, clients and models of the premises, or occasioned wholly or in part by any act or omission of Lessee, its agents, employees, or invitees of Lessee.