

*To the Teacher:*

*We suggest that adults accompanying the school field trip be provided with a copy of this page and a brief orientation to the program in which the students will be participating. Please share background information provided in the field trip preparation document and encourage them to become better acquainted with the Arboretum by visiting on their own in advance of the field trip.*

*~ Thank you.*

## THE ROLE OF ADULTS ON STUDENT FIELD TRIPS

The Arboretum requires that the adult/child ratio on the field trip be one adult for every 6 children for grades preK – first and one adult for every 8 children for second grade and up. We realize it is not an easy task to find adults to accompany school field trips and to do so often requires that an adult must take time off work to be available. We want to thank teachers and parents in advance for complying with this requirement.

Volunteer Docents from The Arboretum facilitate and guide the children in discovery walks and activities. They rely on the assistance of accompanying adults to:

- Keep children together in their groups
- Keep the pace set by the Docent
- Encourage student participation
- Caution students against inappropriate behavior if necessary

We ask that the adults refrain from:

- Bringing siblings, infants or toddlers along
- Performing the activities or answering questions FOR the students
- Using cell phones, except in an emergency
- Conversing with other adults while the Docent is speaking

*Teachers, accompanying adults, and volunteer docents can create a successful and enjoyable outdoor learning experience for students by working together. The staff and volunteers at The Arboretum appreciate your participation.*