

What is required for an application for a Limited Use Permit?

1. A completed application form with the property owner's original signature.
2. A copy of the deed showing the current owners.
3. An explanation and/or verification of the existing farm use of the tract.
4. A written description of the types of agri-tourism and other commercial events or activities that are proposed to be conducted, including the number and duration of the agri-tourism and other commercial events and activities, the anticipated maximum daily attendance and the hours of operation, and how the agri-tourism and other commercial events or activities will be related to and supportive of agriculture and incidental and subordinate to the existing farm use of the tract.
5. An explanation and/or illustration of the types and locations of all permanent and temporary structures, access and egress, parking facilities, and sanitation and solid waste to be used in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities.
6. A traffic management plan that: (a) Identifies the projected number of vehicles and any anticipated use of public roads; (b) provides an assurance that adequate traffic control will be provided; (c) demonstrates that the parcel, lot or tract has direct access per County Code; and (d) a written consent to allow law enforcement, public health, and fire control officers and code enforcement staff to come upon the premises for the purposes of inspection and enforcement of the terms and conditions of the permit and County Code.
7. An explanation that the Limited Use Permit will not, in combination with other agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized in the area, materially alter the stability of the land use pattern in the area.
8. Filing fee (see current fee schedule).

Where can I get more information?

Main Office: Deschutes County Community Development Dept.
117 NW Lafayette Ave., P.O. Box 6005
Bend, OR 97708-6005
Phone: (541) 388-6575
Fax: (541) 385-1764
www.deschutes.org

La Pine: 16345 Sixth St.
(541) 536-5852



Please send all mail to the main office.

8/14

AGRI-TOURISM and Other COMMERCIAL EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES

Summary

In 2011, the State Legislature approved Senate Bill (SB) 960 to allow agri-tourism and other commercial events and activities in the EFU Zone for properties with an existing farm use. Deschutes County incorporated this law into County Code in 2012. Definitions of "farm use," "agri-tourism," and "commercial events or activities" are summarized below. Three types of limited use permits are allowed.

Type 1 permits allow up to 6 small-scale agri-tourism-only uses per year, such as farm-to-plate dinners.

Type 2 permits allow up to 6 agri-tourism and other commercial events or activities per year.

Type 3 permits allow up to 18 events per year, and must be necessary to support the commercial farm uses of the commercial agricultural enterprises of the area.

What is a farm use? Current employment of land for the primary purpose of obtaining a profit in money by raising, harvesting and selling crops or by the feeding, breeding, management and sale of, or the produce of, livestock, poultry, fur-bearing animals or honeybees or for dairying and the sale of dairy products or any other agricultural or horticultural use or animal husbandry or any combination thereof. Please see the full definition of "farm use" in Deschutes County Code Section 18.04 for more information.

What is agri-tourism? A commercial enterprise at a working farm or ranch that is incidental and subordinate to the existing farm use of the tract that promotes successful agriculture, generates supplemental income for the owner. Any assembly of persons shall be for the purpose of taking part in agriculturally based operations or activities such as animal or crop care, picking fruits or vegetables, cooking or cleaning farm products, tasting farm products; or learning about farm or ranch operations. Celebratory gatherings, weddings, parties, or similar uses are not agri-tourism.

What is a commercial event or activity? It is any meeting, celebratory gathering, wedding, party, or similar uses consisting of any assembly of persons and the sale of goods or services. A commercial event or activity shall be related to and supportive of agriculture.

What is a limited use permit? A permit that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferred with, a conveyance of the property.

