

ALDRIDGE GARDENS

NATURE AND ART IN BALANCE

PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY & GUIDELINES

Version 1.4

We think Aldridge Gardens is a beautiful, tranquil setting, and we know many of you do, too. We encourage guests to remember their visit to the Gardens, and to take memories of the Gardens home by taking casual photographs of plants and candid snapshots of people for personal use. We understand that many visitors want to use the Gardens' beauty as a backdrop for more formal photos. In those cases, we strive to make sure everyone has the opportunity for a peaceful, picture-perfect photo shoot, and that's why we require a permit.

The following photography guidelines are for all guests, but a photography permit is necessary for those who wish to use the Gardens as a background for directed or posed photography, including family portraits, engagements, weddings, graduations, proms, senior photos or similar. Photographers do not need to be professionals for this to apply.

Casual photos of immediate family (limit 8 family members) may be taken without a fee, provided the photographer is part of that family. This does NOT include prom, engagement, graduation or similar photographs which are considered posed.

Members of the Gardens are permitted in to take photos after the seasonal 4:00 p.m. general closing time.

The cost of a photo permit is \$30.00 for a one-hour session, with a maximum of 10 people per session. All sessions must be coordinated through the Aldridge Gardens event coordinator 10 days prior to shooting.

Photo session fees are not required for weddings, receptions, or other scheduled special occasions when a rental agreement has been signed with the Gardens. As always, general photography guidelines apply.

GENERAL PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES

Aldridge Gardens is Hoover's public garden, and adherence to these guidelines is important to make sure all visitors have a positive experience.

- The Gardens' rules of etiquette apply at all times.
- Reservations must be made prior to photo sessions. At this time, reservations cannot be made online. Please call the Gardens' Special Event Director at 205.682.8019, extension 6 to schedule a session.
- Sessions start and end on the hour. A maximum of three concurrent sessions may be scheduled.
- In the event of rain or other inclement weather, sessions may be rescheduled. We do not give refunds.

- We allow a maximum of 10 people (over the age of 3) per photo session.
- Large props, including wagons, chairs, etc. are not permitted. Children's stuffed animals are allowed.
- Guests must remain on the pathways and grassed turf at all times. Please do not climb trees or shrubs.
- Do not disturb or remove plants, plant labels or containers.
- No smoking.
- Posed photographs may be taken in the outdoor gardens only (excluding weddings and event rentals.)
- Please do not block accessibility to any entrance, pathway or garden areas for use by others.
- Keep pathways accessible and safe for all. Camera tripods, lights, or other equipment may not block paths.
- Photographs taken at Aldridge Gardens will not be used to imply endorsement by Aldridge Gardens.
- Guests should come dressed and prepared for their photo sessions. There are no changing areas available. Public restrooms are not to be used as changing rooms.
- Unscheduled walk-ins for photo sessions will not be permitted.

FORMAL, POSED PHOTOGRAPHY

Posed photography includes any family portraits, weddings, engagement sessions, proms, graduations, senior photos or the like where a photographer is directing the models/subjects. The photographer does not need to be a professional.

- Posed photographs may be taken in the outdoor gardens only. The Aldridge Art and Historical Collections Museum or other interior venues of Aldridge Gardens are not available for use as photography sites.
- A \$30 photo permit is required for each one-hour session. Any request to waive this fee based on hardship must be submitted in writing to the event coordinator at least 10 days prior to the session reservation.
- In the event of rain or other inclement weather, sessions may be rescheduled. We do not issue refunds.
- Reservations must be made 10 days prior to photo sessions. At this time, reservations cannot be made online. Please call the Gardens' event coordinators at 205.682.8019, extension 4 to schedule a session.
- Sessions start and end on the hour, and must begin and end on time. A maximum of three concurrent sessions may be scheduled for the same time period.
- Unscheduled walk-ins for photo sessions will not be permitted.

ALDRIDGE GARDENS PHOTOGRAPHY GUILD

Professional photographers may join the Aldridge Gardens Photography Guild for \$100 annually in lieu of paying session fees. Membership year is based on date joined, not calendar year, and includes access to the Gardens for an unlimited number of posed sessions, as well as permission to enter after the 4:00 p.m. public closing time in the spring and summer. A maximum of 10 people are allowed per one-hour session. General photography guidelines apply, and reservations are required. Please call 205.682.8019, extension 6 to make sure your day, time and location are available.

PROMOTIONAL AND COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

Professional photographers and videographers shooting on behalf of Aldridge Gardens and for promotional use by the Gardens are not required to pay a fee, but reservations are suggested.

