

## Professional Photographers

Welcome to **Hansen Tree Farm**, it is our forest in a city and we happily share it with professional photographers who treat it with respect. We're very happy that you find this place as scenic as we do.

We have a few updates for the 2016 and 2017 seasons.

- The main change is that during the 5 weekends we're open there is a \$30 fee for clients using the farm for photo sessions. The fee covers the hot drinks and hot dogs, hay rides and of course our famous Christmas sausage. This fee will apply to each separate group you photograph. Your client will also get a free wreath (\$30 price) if they decide to purchase a tree. We think its the best way to ensure that your clients may enjoy all of this holiday experience.
- When you, the photographer, arrive at the farm (during the 5 weekends we're open) step inside the gift shop and pay the cashier. You'll be given a coupon for your client, good for a free wreath with the purchase of a tree. The new fee applies only to the 14 days we are open! See our 2016 and 2017 dates below and on our website and Facebook.
- We have a new log shelter ('group meet' on our map) for photographers to use - located in the center of our farm - with a campfire and picnic tables. If you schedule a shoot during our open days, plan to meet your clients at the "group meet, log shelter" location and NOT at our front entry. During the open season please quickly pay inside and get the wreath coupon, then jump back in your vehicle and head straight to the "group meet" log shelter.. There is plenty of parking there for you and your clients, and much easier for you to match up. PLEASE relay this information to your clients, they should meet you there and not at the main entry, main campfire or sales barn.

2016 OPEN dates	2017 OPEN dates
Nov. 19, 20	Nov. 18, 19
Nov. 25, 26, 27	Nov. 24, 25, 26
Dec. 2, 3, 4	Dec. 1, 2, 3
Dec. 9, 10, 11	Dec. 8, 9, 10
Dec. 16, 17, 18	Dec. 15, 16, 17

- Please remember that on other days and throughout the rest of the year **there is no charge** for shooting at Hansen Tree Farm. You may come out any time you wish, and without notifying us. And of course it is much quieter during the off-season, though equally scenic!

### Tips

- Well over 100 photographers use Hansen Tree Farm, during all seasons. You likely will run into others when you come out.
- Please be sure your client has your phone number and maybe even what vehicle you're in. Unhappy clients have approached us asking where "their" photographer is! Especially when it is a busy weekend we recommend having a clear plan to find and meet your clients.
- We hope that you are a member of the Professional Photographers of America (PPA) and have their liability insurance. It is reasonably priced and makes sense for anyone in the business.

## FAQs

*“Dave, why on earth do you allow photographers all over your farm?”*

I can relate to your request to use our scenic farm for photo sessions because my 'real' job is a photojournalist for the University of Minnesota and over the last 40 years have had the satisfaction of introducing many new discoveries to the public, from the Honeycrisp apple and cold hardy wine grapes to swine and turkey vaccines. I've shot in 40 countries and six continents and people are good to me, so I say pass it on. Just respect our property.

*“What type of photo sessions has the Tree Farm had?”*

You are very welcome to use Hansen Tree Farm for location Christmas photos of families, grad photos, maternity photos, engagements.... and any time of the year you'd like.

*“My clients loved the farm, do you do weddings or other events?”*

We do NOT want to get into the business of doing events (weddings, graduation parties...). We are strictly a Christmas tree farm, open from the weekend before Thanksgiving to Christmas, and our 'real work' schedules would never allow us to do more during other seasons. But we are very happy that your clients enjoyed our scenic forest.

*“Does your family live at the farm? Will we see you out there?”*

No one lives on the property we all live and work in St. Paul. My brother Mark and I are the owners of Hansen Tree Farm and are out there off and on, several times a week but usually in the late afternoon and into the evening. A neighbor, Jim Fiala, walks the property several times a day and monitors activities. If our gate is open then drive in. If the gates are closed then park just outside, but don't completely block access to the right hand gate.

*“The vintage tools and tractor would look amazing in my shot!”*

This is a real working farm. There is equipment and tools around, so please stay off tractors and mowers, these are not props but heavy machinery that can be unsafe. However, the rustic shelters near the entrance are fine to use and they make great backgrounds. Our hay bales and firewood-length logs may be used but please put them back.

*“I am meeting my clients on a weekday in the off season, is a restroom available?”*

Keep in mind there are only “port-a-potty's” available during our season, that is between Thanksgiving and Christmas. All other times of year we do not have facilities.

### **Photographer contact:**

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