



Reopening of the Outdoor Gardens

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 10/12/2020

Please contact us at 608-246-4550 or olbrichinformation@cityofmadison.com if you have a question that is not answered below.

Can I still rent a room or host a wedding at Olbrich?

Yes, if all those in attendance comply with [CDC guidelines](#) and restrictions set forth in the [Forward Dane Plan](#) by Public Health Madison & Dane County.

Can I still purchase a photo permit for engagement/maternity/etc. photos?

Yes, but only for times outside of our current public hours. Available times are 5:45 – 6:45 pm nightly and for one hour between 9 – 11 am on Saturdays and Sundays. Applications must be approved in advance and regular rules and fees apply. Olbrich is closed to the public during these times, so unless you apply in advance, staff will not be onsite to provide access. The need for a permit is based on what you are doing (using the gardens as a studio/backdrop for posed photography), not who is taking the photos (friend, family, or professional). Review our [Photo Policy webpage](#). Download a [Photo Permit Application](#).

Are there free times to visit the Conservatory?

In October, there are no free times for nonmembers. Free times on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 10 a.m. – noon will return beginning in November.

Do you offer any free passes for the Bolz Conservatory?

Yes, free passes for the Bolz Conservatory are available by asking the Conservatory cashier. These passes are funded by generous Olbrich donors.

Can I exit the Conservatory to use the restroom and re-enter?

Yes, though you may be asked to wait if the Conservatory is at capacity when you return.

Are strollers and wheelchairs allowed in the Conservatory?

Yes, though double-wide strollers are discouraged because of the narrow paths. Strollers and wheelchairs can access the second floor via the ramp, but must return the same way.

Are Member Mondays still happening?

No. With the reopening of the Bolz Conservatory, Member Mondays have been discontinued.

Why was the Conservatory admission fee raised from \$2 to \$6?

The temporary increase was introduced to raise enough funds to support the extra staff needed to reopen the Conservatory.

Will membership extensions/refunds be offered for the time you were closed?

All questions pertaining to membership can be directed to [Elizabeth Spry](#), *Membership & Development Associate*, at 608-246-4724.

Is there still a place to eat food onsite?

Eating food within the gardens is prohibited, but there are white picnic tables on the patio near the front entrance available for sitting and eating. Some tables have been removed to provide more space between each table.