

OREGON AGRITOURISM LIMITED LIABILITY SIGNS

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The Oregon Agritourism Inherent Risk Law (SB341 passed in 2015), provides that agritourism businesses a certain level of protection in the event of injury or death of a visitor to the farm that arises out of the inherent risks involved in agritourism activities. This law does not protect against negligence. The full text of the statute is posted at [ORS 30.671 through 30.677](#).

In order for you to be protected by this law, official signs must be installed as directed below.

Posting Signs as Specified in the Law

In order for you to be in compliance with the law, a regulation sign must be posted at the entrance to the property and also at additional locations where Agritourism activities take place, such as a farm stand or store, animal barns, u-pick areas, nature trails, and/or agriculture buildings. The sign must be posted at a height easily read by visitors.

By installing the signs in this manner, you as the farmer or rancher are giving the visiting public notification of the risks associated with your enterprise and giving them a chance to leave the property before entry.



Photo: Audrey Comerford, OSU Extension Agritourism

There are exceptions to the limited liability provided under this Law. Agritourism providers would not be protected from liability for injury or death if:

- Caused by willful or wanton acts or omissions by the agritourism provider;
- Caused intentionally;
- Due to failure to inspect equipment provided to participants;
- Due to failure to inspect property for potential hazards and warn participants;
- Provider fails to post conspicuous warning notices required by the bill;
- Provider fails to obtain proper approvals for the activities.

Regulation Sign Appearance

In order for the sign to be in compliance with the law, the warning message must appear in one-inch black lettering and read exactly as stated in ORS 30.677:

Under Oregon law, there is no liability for an injury to or the death of a participant in an agri-tourism activity conducted at this agri-tourism location if the injury or death results from the inherent risks of the agri-tourism activity. Inherent risks of agri-tourism activities are risks of injury inherent to land, equipment and animals, as well as the potential for you to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to your injury or death. You are assuming the risk of participating in this agri-tourism activity.

Obtaining a Regulation Limited Liability Sign

Ways to obtain a proper sign:

1. Make your own sign or have one made for you following the exact specifications above.
2. Purchase a regulation sign printed on a durable PVC material designed to withstand weather conditions from Oregon Agritourism Partnership, an Oregon non-profit. This lightweight but sturdy material makes for an easy and quick installation. They sell for \$50 each and OSU Extension Service assists with the sign distribution. The signs are available for purchase and pick up at the OSU Extension Office, Marion County. For more information visit www.oregonfarmloop.com or email farmloop@gmail.com.



Photo: Audrey Comerford, OSU Extension Agritourism

References

ORS 30.671 through 30.677 www.oregonlaws.org/ors/30.671

Oregon Agritourism Partnership, an Oregon nonprofit, www.oregonagritourism.com

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