



## **AGRICULTURAL TOURISM**

Agricultural tourism operations may be allowed in the rural portions of Minnehaha County by first obtaining an agricultural tourism permit. Examples of agricultural tourism operations include home wineries, produce stands, u-pick fruit and vegetable operations, corn mazes, holiday tree farms or farm experience operations where tourists come to an operating farm to experience the farm life. Agricultural tourism permits may be approved either by the Planning Director or the Planning Commission.

You should first schedule a meeting with the County Planning Department to discuss the proposed operation and learn of specific requirements for the use. The cost to apply for an agricultural tourism permit is \$250.

All applications for an agricultural tourism permit are made to the County Planning Department. The full application must include:

- a completed application form (attached);
- a detailed written description of the use, including hours of operation, proposed private events, and any proposed signs;
- a complete site plan showing all aspects of the site such as buildings, location of the various activities on the site, designated parking areas, and driveway access;
- the application fee; and
- any other information as the Planning Director determines is necessary for the specific use.

The Planning Director has 20 days to review the application and make a decision on whether to approve the permit with conditions or deny the

permit. The Planning Director's decision on the permit can be appealed to the Board of Adjustment by filing a written appeal request with the planning office within five working days of the decision.

If you are unable to meet the ordinance requirements for the agricultural tourism operation, you can apply to have your application heard by the Minnehaha County Planning Commission. The commission meets the fourth Monday of each month (except holidays and December) and the deadline to submit an application package is 3-1/2 weeks before the meeting. You will be required to post a sign on your property prior to the meeting and you must mail a notice of the meeting to all property owners within 500 feet of your property. The Planning Department will provide a list of owners and addresses and a sample letter.

Some agricultural tourism uses are allowed to hold special events. These are activities that are open to the public and have more than 100 people. You must notify the Planning Director at least 60 days prior to the event with a description of the event and a proposed plan. The Planning Director will send notice of the event to all property owners within at least 600 feet of your property and allow them two weeks to respond with their comments.

If a neighbor submits a written objection, your request will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for a public hearing. If the Planning Director receives no response from neighbors that can grant the permit with conditions or deny the permit. Decisions by the Planning Director can be appealed to the Board of Adjustment by submitting a written request of appeal within 5 working days of the decision.

## **AGRICULTURAL TOURISM PERMIT APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

- Complete application form
  
- Comprehensive site plan. Be sure to include property lines, existing and proposed structures, locations of any activity areas, parking plan, and setbacks from property lines to any structures or parking areas.
  
- Written narrative describing all aspects of the proposed use. Be sure to include the hours of operation, location and size of proposed signs, and whether you plan on holding special events.
  
- \$250 permit application fee.



# AGRICULTURAL TOURISM PERMIT APPLICATION

Minnehaha County Planning Department, 415 N. Dakota Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, (605)367-4204

**Legal Description of Property:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address or General Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zoning Class:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Map ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acres in parcel(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Use:**  Home Winery  Produce Stand  U-Pick Farm  Corn Maze  Holiday Tree Farm  
 Farm Experience Operation  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Proposed Use:** (attach addition pages as needed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Date(s) Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

I/We herby apply for a agricultural tourism permit and certify that all statements herein and on attached documents are true and correct. I/We understand that any false statements or omissions may result in denial of this permit and jeopardize future permits. I/We grant authority to authorized representatives of Minnehaha County to enter the above noted property at this time and in the future for inspection purposes.

Applicant (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ *city* \_\_\_\_\_ *state* \_\_\_\_\_ *zip*

Owner (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ *city* \_\_\_\_\_ *state* \_\_\_\_\_ *zip*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Appl. #:	_____
Date:	_____
Filing Fee:	<b>\$250.00</b>
Receipt No.:	_____

**FILING FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE**