

## A Living Legacy

As you explore the garden and farm we hope you'll enjoy learning where food comes from. Yet, consider that the Little Farm is more than a place for discovery and fun. It helps protect the genetic diversity of rare livestock and crops—preserving a rich agricultural heritage for generations to come.



Stanley Ward

## Farm Schedule

The farm is open, free of charge, every day of the year. The Red Barn closes at 3:30pm, though visitors may still enjoy the rest of the farm into the evening. Parking lot gates are locked at sunset.

## For a safe and enjoyable visit:

- Wash your hands after petting the animals.
- You may feed all the animals except the rabbits: bring lettuce or celery **ONLY**, please.
- Dogs are not permitted at the Little Farm or elsewhere in Tilden Nature Area.

- This is a working farm; please be on the lookout for workers and equipment.
- The Little Farm is not able to accept unwanted animals from the public.
- During winter, the farm can be muddy; be sure to wear appropriate shoes.
- The farm is home to a variety of animals. Please be respectful and considerate of its residents.

## Naturalist Programs

Park naturalists conduct a variety of programs for both organized groups and the public. Public programs, usually on weekends, are publicized in the Park District's monthly newsletter, which is posted on park bulletin boards and is available at the park visitor center and on the internet at [www.ebparcs.org/events](http://www.ebparcs.org/events). Weekday programs are available for schools and organized groups by reservation. Call 510-544-2233 for program information.



James Wilson

## You Can Help



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The Tilden Little Farm relies on your generous support. Your donations can be made through the Regional Parks Foundation online at [www.regional-parksfoundation.org](http://www.regional-parksfoundation.org) or by check made payable to the Regional Parks Foundation. Checks can be dropped off at the Tilden Nature Area Visitor Center or mailed to P.O. Box 21074, Crestmont Station, Oakland, CA 94620.

Please include a notation directing the gift to the Tilden Little Farm. All support provided to the Little Farm is tax deductible. For more information call 510-544-2202.

## Tilden Nature Area EEC and Little Farm

600 Canon Drive  
Berkeley, CA 94708-2396  
510-544-2233

TRS Relay for the Hearing Impaired: 711  
[tnarea@ebparcs.org](mailto:tnarea@ebparcs.org)  
(Located at North end of Central Park Drive, Tilden Regional Park)



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This brochure is provided as a public service of the Interpretive and Recreation Services Department of the East Bay Regional Park District.



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# Tilden Little Farm

East Bay  
Regional Park District



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A key part of Tilden Nature Area since 1955, the Little Farm has introduced generations of park visitors to the sights, sounds, and smells of a working farm.

The Tilden Little Farm seeks to preserve traditional, heritage breeds of farm animals. The Children's Garden features traditional, or heirloom, herbs and vegetables. Most varieties are well over 100 years old.

The Red Barn, built in 1955 by Berkeley High School carpentry students and the Kiwanis Club of Berkeley, has become a classic farm icon. Additional structures have been built over the years, and the farm continues to change and evolve.



Courtesy of the Kiwanis Club of Berkeley

## Meet the Animals

### Shorthorn Cattle

Milking Shorthorns are one of the oldest recognized breeds in the world. Originally from England, these docile animals efficiently



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produce milk and meat and can pull a load as well. Shorthorns come in three colors: red, white, and roan (mixed red and white). At the Little Farm, the cows are milked after giving birth to their calves in the summer.

### Goats

The farm's French Alpine goats are renowned as an excellent dairy breed. They are very personable, and love to be fed by the public. On special interpretive programs, the goats are sometimes led on hikes outside the farm.



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### Sheep

Black Welsh Mountain sheep are small, agile, and hardy. The breed is traditionally used for meat and wool production. The farm's sheep are sheared every spring. The wool is washed, carded, spun into yarn, and used in programs and for education.

### Pigs

A few times a year, a pregnant sow visits the farm and raises a litter of piglets. Each litter may consist of ten or twelve piglets! Pigs are very intelligent, and contrary to popular thinking, they are one of the cleanest animals on the farm.



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### Poultry

A variety of heritage geese, ducks, chickens, and turkeys live on the farm; all are very good egg-layers. Chicks are hatched every spring. During the day, the chickens are free to roam the farm and go wherever they like. When the Red Barn closes, all the fowl are gathered and put inside to keep them safe from night-time predators.



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### Rabbits

The Dutch rabbit is one of the oldest and most popular breeds of domestic rabbits. This breed was developed in England from rabbits that were imported from the Netherlands during the 1830s. The Dutch is generally a good-natured rabbit. It is quite sociable with a great personality, and can be very energetic.



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Courtney Glettner

## The Children's Garden

This garden was established in 2005 by Environmental Education Center (EEC) staff and Little Farm day-camp children. It is used as an outdoor classroom by interpretive staff and docents throughout the year. Each summer, Little Farm day-campers help plant, harvest, and collect seeds. During the rest of the year, the garden hosts programs ranging from wool production to composting.

About half the garden's vegetables and fruits are used during public programs; the other half is left to go to seed for the next season.

You are welcome to walk around the garden. Feel free to sit for awhile and enjoy the peaceful surroundings. Find out what a potato plant looks like, or how a broccoli flowers.

Please don't pick crops or berries unless you are on a program with park staff.