

The Gardens at Ball

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the purpose of The Gardens?

The Gardens serve as a living catalog for our customers and industry partners. They contain many plant trials and also function as a sales and marketing tool.

Who can visit The Gardens?

- The Gardens are not open to the public. Organized garden groups/clubs may schedule an appointment for a weekday visit in August to take a self-guided tour.
- Below are the garden group appointment days:
August: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
Appointment times: 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm
- Avid home gardeners and plant lovers may enjoy these opportunities:
 - See The Gardens at Ball during The Garden Conservancy event held each August. The Garden Conservancy organization sells tickets on their site. <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/>
 - Visit the public gardens at Cantigny Park: <https://cantigny.org/things-to-do/gardens/about-the-gardens/>

Can we visit inside the Ball offices or greenhouses?

- Our Ball headquarters houses over 600 employees that receive guests by appointment. Garden visitors are welcome to enjoy the beauty of The Gardens, and we ask them **not** to enter the building, as all doors remain locked for security.
- Foot traffic through the greenhouses increases the risk of insect and disease infestations, so we do not allow visitors to these spaces.

What facilities are available during our visit?

- Public restrooms are available to our guests in The Gardens. Please see the signs directing you to their location rather than enter the building.
- There is also a hydration station in the restroom area so you may fill up your water bottle.

May we eat lunch at Ball?

- Ball has an employee café that is not open to garden group visitors.
- Be sure to bring water to stay hydrated or a snack in your bag to fuel your walking. However, we ask that any other food or beverage remain in your vehicle.
- We can suggest several local restaurants that your group can enjoy before or after your visit.

Can visitors with mobility needs tour The Gardens?

- Paths can be navigated with a wheelchair if the guest has their own equipment and attendant, but as a non-public garden, we do not have golf cart or other mobility assistance available. Guests should be stable on their feet and able to walk at least a mile comfortably.

Where do garden visitors park?

- We designate parking spaces for August visitors in our employee parking lots.
- Carpooling is encouraged and buses are welcome.
- We are in a residential area and wish to be good neighbors. If you park in the street, please abide by city parking signs.

We thank you for your interest in The Gardens at Ball!
Please call with any questions you may have. 630-231-3600
