THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO VISIT THE EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES:

Our site is a “Living Laboratory” where students will interact with science, history, and the arts to better understand the processes of innovation and collaboration. This packet contains all the information you will need to make your visit a success.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Review all the materials in this packet.

- Plan to spend two hours on site. Extension activities or lunch will add to this time.
- Limited space is available and groups are first come, first served.
- The maximum size for a group is 60. Groups must be a minimum of 20 to receive group rates.
- One chaperone is required for every 10 students. These chaperones will be admitted free of charge. Chaperones beyond this 1:10 ratio will be charged $7 each. See Chaperone Resources (page 7).
- Once on site, groups will be split into smaller groups and explore the site with their chaperones. See Chaperone Information Guide (page 6).
- Plan to spend two hours on site.
- Transportation to and from the site is not provided.
- Bus drivers must be given the attached information regarding parking, drop-off, and pickup (page 2).
- Photography is allowed except where signs prohibit it.
- All students must be quiet and respectful.
- No backpacks are allowed during the tour (see When You Arrive, below).
- Lunch may be eaten on site, but lunches must be stored on the bus. It is recommended to bring blankets as seating is limited.
- For questions about accessibility, please visit www.edisonford.org and click “Accessibility.”
- Familiarize yourself with our site map, included in this packet (pages 4-5).
PLANNING YOUR VISIT: BUS DRIVER INSTRUCTIONS

From the south:

1. Take exit #138 and go west (left turn) on State Road 82.
2. After approximately 4.5 miles, at the intersection with US 41, continue ahead onto State Road 867 (McGregor Boulevard).
3. Travel approximately a half mile and look for the Edison Ford parking lot entrance on your left, just beyond the pedestrian crosswalk.
4. Follow the signs for bus parking.

From the north:

1. Take exit #158 (Tucker’s Grade) and go west (right turn) to US 41.
2. At the US 41 junction (first traffic light), turn south (left).
3. Continue on US 41 south through North Fort Myers.
4. Cross the Caloosahatchee River Bridge and stay in the right lane.
5. Follow the signs and exit at State Road 867/McGregor Boulevard.
6. DO NOT TAKE THE FIRST EXIT RAMP FOR HISTORIC DISTRICT.
7. At the bottom of the bridge, at the traffic light, turn right on Hwy. 867 (McGregor Boulevard).
8. Travel approximately a half mile and look for the Edison Ford parking lot entrance on your left, just beyond the pedestrian crosswalk.
9. Follow the signs for bus parking.
WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- **Review the rules with students**: remain quiet and respectful, no touching, no running, no food or beverages in the museum or around the homes.

- **Disembark the bus** and meet your Edison Ford staff ambassador at the pre-arranged time and location.

- **Review your schedule**, including any lunch plans or extension activities. Inform Edison Ford staff of any changes to student numbers, time constraints, etc.

- **Split your group into smaller groups** with one chaperone each. See the following pages for chaperone guides. Ensure each chaperone has a guide.

- **Lunches and backpacks** must remain on the bus.
Edison Ford Winter Estates

Chaperone Information Guide

The Edison and Ford Winter Estates is a living historical site and we need your help preserving it. Teachers, you can help do your part by instructing your students and chaperones to please follow the guidelines below.

**Trip Tips for Chaperones**

**Students must be supervised by a chaperone at all times.**
- Keep track of your students and act as a role model for their behavior.
- Keep your group in one exhibit at a time.
- Count your students before moving to another area.

**Encourage them to read directions and other posted information.**
- What do you think this means?
- How do you think this works?
- Can you read this to me?

**Museum Manners for Students**

Remember, you represent your school and community. You and your group may be asked to leave if you do not follow these expectations

- While you are here, treat the museum like your classroom
- Use indoor voices
- Walk in the museum
- Respect the museum exhibits and other guests
- Students must stay with chaperone at all times
- Food and drink must stay in designated areas
- Please do not touch the artifacts or cross or climb the barriers used to protect the artifacts

If separated from your group, look for any staff member from the Edison Ford Winter Estates. Staff wear nametags and a shirt with our logo (at the top of this page).

**Invite students to ask questions and use their imagination.**
- What does this make you wonder?
- Can you imagine ways to change this?
- What are things that you use in your life that this reminds you of?

**Invite students to notice their surroundings**
- What do you see?
- What do you think this does?
- Have you ever seen anything like this?