

## Pheasant Fields Farm Tour outline

Begin tour in “October House” a covered building in the center of the farm.

History: (Look at pictures displayed on wall)

A logger, Pete Peterson, purchased a piece of a homestead in 1885. His nephew, Conrad Peterson and his wife (in pictures) came to live here and developed an egg business. They built the house in 1929. There were 2 very long chicken house and 3 other smaller chicken houses – enough for 5000 chickens. Two of their children, pictured with eggs in buckets, shared information and pictures in 2007. When most of the pictures were taken, Silverdale was the egg capital of the world. There were many chicken farms and more eggs were shipped out of Silverdale at the waterfront park area than any other place on Earth!

Two children standing in front yard in swim suits are next to a chestnut tree that was small. That tree is below the house yet today. The barn in the picture was new then; today it replaced by garden space.

Farmer Nikki’s parents purchased the farm in 1949. Nikki and Allen Johanson came to live here in 1987.

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### What do we do here today:

We raise vegetables and eggs

We sell CSA shares (customers sign up for weekly vegetables)

We sell vegetables here at the farm and at the Poulsbo, Silverdale and Bremerton Farmer’s Markets.

Our season begins at Easter and we hold a **Spring Egg hunt**. The farm is open for education farm tours. We typically hold classes to teach people how to grow their own food. When fall comes, we hold family oriented events and open our farm to the public to provide information about farming and farm life.

In October, the Corn Maze is open daily from noon until 6:00 pm. We do farm tours and provide a place for birthday parties and group gatherings. Our season ends after our last crop is sold, typically pumpkins in October. Our season can be extended depending on climate and product availability

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### **The Walk-about:**

Visit the cutting flower garden. Point out the herbs, let kids touch and smell (sage, lavender, rosemary, wooly lamb's ear, catnip)

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**Animals:**

llama – Cecilia

2 goats: Snap & Crackle

2 sheep: Delilah and Blakely (both females)

1 Hen Turkey, Lucky; 1 Tom Turkey,

The llama is here as a guard animal to protect the sheep and goats. She is VERY smart and will keep predators away from the sheep and goats (concern for coyotes). Her fleece can be woven to make clothing.

The sheep and goats help us clear land by eating weeds and brush that other animals will not eat. We also use their fleece for clothing items.

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**Point out the chestnut tree.** The picture of the boy and girl in the front yard in their swimsuits are next to a skinny tree. It is huge today. Chestnuts are used as a natural spider repellent. We bag them in the fall and they are available for sale at our shop

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**Front Garden:** (Pond field)  
Lots of vegetables grew this summer in the front field. Sunflowers, cucumbers, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, gourds, squash and pumpkins

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**Duck Pond:** Geese now live at the pond.

**Chicken house:** We have a mixed variety of egg layers here

**Greenhouse:** We start plants there January and into the summer months; vegetable and flower plants

**Field above greenhouse:** pumpkins, squash, gourds, pumpkins, sweet corn, chard, broccoli, kohlrabi, chard, kale, cabbage, sunflowers, peppers and cauliflower (this area is being turned into a parking lot this time of the year.)

**Upper field above October House:** rhubarb, corn maze and pumpkins

**Garden below the brooder house:** cucumber, carrots, beets, dill, radishes, gourds, summer squash

**In the maze:** Lead group through kiddy trail decorated with painted pumpkins (first trail on your right and keep to your right until you come out to the pumpkin patch. Be sure to exit the trail to the right into the pumpkin patch.

Participants get their sugar pie pumpkin here. There's many places for photo opportunities including at the end of the tours. There is an area to have a snack at tour completion. Please let us know in advance if you want to use this area.

**End of Tour**

**Note: We recognize that usually children are more interested in seeing things and experiencing hands-on activities than hearing about history. We gladly modify all**

tours with direction from parents or teachers. Farmer Nikki could talk for “hours” about the history of the once thriving farming community but we use our judgment with regard to interest and questions asked and the attention span of participants.

Thank you!

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