



What time would it be?

Banding is an early morning activity. Our volunteers are at the station from dawn until 5 hours later. Birds are most active in the period just after dawn so we recommend that your group arrive as early as possible. We will let you know when you book what is the best time. It may be painful but it is worth it!

What are the facilities at the banding station?

We have a very visitor friendly set up with banding pagoda, picnic tables, coat and backpack racks and a wilderness eco-friendly washroom at the station.

What should we bring?

- Warm layered clothing – Colony Farm is a low-lying area and can be cold even in the summer months and especially early in the morning
- Rubber boots or waterproof shoes – The banding station is in the old field habitat and the grass can be quite wet especially in the early morning
- Binoculars and cameras
- Water and coffee mug

Should we schedule a back-up date in case it is raining that day?

This is always a good idea. We band both Saturday and Sunday each week from April 1st to October 31st (weather permitting) so we suggest scheduling the visit for a Saturday with the idea that it can be moved to the Sunday if the weather doesn't cooperate.

We are not able to band in steady rain as birds can quickly become hypothermic so we check the weather network each evening prior to banding to ensure rain is not forecast and will communicate with you to confirm banding for your event.

What age group is appropriate?

Because of the environment and to ensure the welfare and safety of birds this is more suitable for parents with children over the age of 6. We recommend that the younger the participants the smaller the group and the lower the adult to children ratio – we cannot provide any supervision, that must be the responsibility of the accompanying parents. The optimum size for younger groups is 10 – 12 children. We don't recommend any group over 20 participants no matter what the age.