

# Frequently Asked Questions about Stems: A Garden Soirée

## 1. Where is the Arboretum?

8909 W. 179<sup>th</sup> Street – From the 179<sup>th</sup> exit on Hwy 69, go west past Antioch. Entrance is on the south side of the street.

## 2. What do we wear?

Comfortable shoes! Women wear sundresses, Capri pants, etc. – anything you'd wear to a patio party or other dressy outdoor event. The photos in the Overview document will give you an idea of what others have worn. Men wear Hawaiian or golf shirts and casual pants. If temperatures are above normal, shorts are appropriate. Jeans are not appropriate.

## 3. What about the weather?

The only reason the party would not go on would be an immediate danger due to severe weather. If that were the case, emergency personnel would not allow guests to enter the Arboretum. In 2009, a storm descended upon the area 10 minutes after the party began. Guests already at the party took shelter for approximately 30 minutes. Arriving guests were asked to stay in their cars. At 6:40, the rain stopped, a rainbow appeared and the party resumed! No refunds for any reason including inclement weather.

## 4. Is the party appropriate for children?

No. Only guests 21 years or older will be admitted. This will be strictly enforced.

## 5. What's the parking situation?

There is ample parking on the grounds, and shuttle busses will provide a lift to the entrance to the party. Those with Patron Parking Passes will park in the paved parking lot and surrounding areas.

## 6. What about bugs on a warm June night in Kansas?

Each guest will receive a "bug band" to wear during the party. Additionally, insect repellent sprays will be in the restroom areas and supplies of towelettes will be at the beverage stations. Once opened, bug bands are effective for up to 30 days – so keep and re-use on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

## 7. What beverages will be available?

A variety of wines along with Boulevard Beers, Pepsi products and bottled water will be served. Guests will receive a hand-painted wine glass to use throughout the evening and take home as a Stems souvenir.

## 8. What kind of food is served?

There'll be a wide variety of tasty tidbits (many much more generous than a tidbit!). Past menu items have included crab cakes, sliders, barbeque ham and beef, chicken Marsala, orange shrimp, "baby cakes," fruit crepes, crab & shrimp ceviché, prime rib sandwiches, an antipasto buffet, and fried cheesecake. Guests will receive a small tray to keep throughout the evening to hold the individual servings of food. There will be 100 tables along the walking paths at which to stop and enjoy the food. There is no formal seating but many places to stop and eat along the walkways.

## 9. Will there be efforts to recycle at the event?

We're glad you asked! Recycling and trash receptacles will be conveniently located and maintained throughout the gardens. We encourage everyone to recycle beer and water bottles and soft drink cans. Event staff will recycle all wine bottles. Please re-use your souvenir wine glass and your food tray.

## 10. Is there any reason to stay until the end of the party?

Yes! There will be a short fireworks display beginning at approximately 9:40 PM.

## 11. What accommodations are available for those with disabilities?

The Arboretum is ADA accessible. All Stems features and attractions will be situated along the concrete walkways that accommodate wheel chairs. Emergency personnel will be on property.

## 12. Is there lighting at the Arboretum?

There is limited permanent outdoor lighting. At dusk, tiki torches will light the walkways. Food and beverage serving areas will be lit. Emergency lighting will illuminate the parking lot at dark.

If you have a question not answered here, please email [stephanie.stollsteimer@artsandrec-op.org](mailto:stephanie.stollsteimer@artsandrec-op.org).

We hope you enjoy Stems: A Garden Soirée!