



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

FAMILY LAND HERITAGE CEREMONY & LUNCHEON

General Information Sheet

PARKING Parking is available in the Capitol Visitors Parking Garage at 1201 San Jacinto, located between Trinity and San Jacinto streets at 12th and 13th streets (see map). Parking is free for the first two hours and \$1.00 for each half hour thereafter (maximum daily charge: \$12.00). Metered spaces are available throughout the capitol complex.

DROP-OFF LOCATION Please see the map for the drop-off locations for persons with disabilities. The most convenient location is on the east side of the Capitol on Brazos Street (see map).

REGISTRATION The two honorees accepting the certificate need to register between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on the day of the ceremony. The registration area is located on the second floor of the Capitol in the Speaker's Committee Room (2W.6) on the west end of the building (see map). You do not have to stay at the Capitol once you register.

Registration is by county where the farm/ranch is located. Designated honorees will receive their name badges at registration. PLEASE do not exchange nametags or seating assignments. Your seating assignment and names are in the order you will be introduced to accept the certificate.

SEATING DESIGNATED HONOREES MUST BE IN THEIR ASSIGNED SEATS ON THE HOUSE FLOOR BY 1:00 P.M. to ensure the program starts at 1:30 p.m. There will be a place card in each seat with the honoree's name accepting the certificate. PLEASE DO NOT MOVE THESE NAME CARDS prior to the ceremony. There will be open seating for family and friends on a first-come, first-served basis in the House Gallery.

Be sure to notify us of any special needs for the two property representatives accepting the certificate when completing the "FLH Honoree and RSVP Form" included in this mailing. (This includes wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, etc.)

CEREMONY As the certificate presentation begins, ushers will guide the honorees one row at a time to the front of the House Chamber. The 200-year properties will be called first followed by the 150-year and 100-year properties. There are no stairs to climb. When Commissioner Miller presents the certificate, honorees will pause for a photograph then return to their assigned seat. Only the two designated honorees accepting the certificate will be in the photograph with Commissioner Miller. Please leave children with other family members in the audience, unless they are one of the two honorees accepting the certificate.

Pictures and/or videotaping are allowed during the certificate presentation as long as equipment and individuals do not block the view or aisle or otherwise interfere with the ceremony, official ceremony photographer and media.

ENTERTAINMENT

Cowboy poet and entertainer Red Steagall will perform at the ceremony. No videotaping is allowed during his performance.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Anyone needing the assistance of a cane, wheelchair, or walker should bring these items with them since they will not be available. If you need to rent a scooter, power or manual wheelchair contact the Kerring Group at 512-451-8853.

FOOD

A free barbeque luncheon and dessert will be served 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the honorees and up to 10 family and friends on the southwest lawn of the Capitol (see map). The Capitol Grille, located in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.002, is open to the public and serves breakfast and lunch. No food, drinks, gum or candy are allowed in the House Chamber.

DRESS

Dresses, western dresses or pantsuits are appropriate for women and sport/dress shirts and/or coat and tie are appropriate for men. Wear comfortable shoes for walking around the Capitol.

TDA STAFF

Texas Department of Agriculture staff and volunteers will be available at the Capitol entrances, luncheon, registration desk and House Chamber to assist you. TDA staff will be wearing name badges.

CHILDREN

For the guests in the gallery, we ask for you to hold small children in your lap due to the capacity limits of the gallery and size of the crowd. This will ensure adequate seating for everyone. Also, we will be taping the ceremony, so if a child is crying, you are welcome to leave the ceremony to walk around outside with the child.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Order forms for the ceremony photography will be included in your packet at registration. We will not accept orders on the day of the event; you will need to mail in any order forms and checks after the event.

PLAN AHEAD

It will be a busy day with more than 500 attendees expected, so plan ahead and arrive early to ensure parking and seating. Also, our seating capacity is limited for the barbeque luncheon, so be courteous and allow others to sit down when you are finished eating.

CAPITOL TOURS

Free Capitol tours are conducted daily beginning in the Capitol South Foyer and concluding in the Capitol Extension. This tour features the Capitol, Texas history and Texas legislature. Tours are generally 30 minutes and run every 30 to 45 minutes during the following times: Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. If your group has more than 10 people for the Capitol tour, reservations must be made in advance by calling (512) 305-8402 between 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to schedule a time.

There are no covered walkways so if rain is in the forecast, please bring an umbrella.

————— **Please do not leave children unattended.** —————

