



## “Curiosity Farms” Opens at Thanksgiving Point

*STEM takes root on 9-acre farm and learning center*

**LEHI, Utah** (August 20, 2024) - **Thanksgiving Point** is thrilled to announce the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the newly reimagined venue, **Curiosity Farms**, on September 26, 2024. Showcasing the latest in farming technology, state-of-the-art sustainability practices, and offering a look into the world of animal husbandry, Curiosity Farms is the gateway for kids to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in agriculture.

Curiosity Farms will educate on various agricultural technologies and sciences, including hydroponics, animal science, urban food production, the future of farm management, and more. Through multiple new and redesigned exhibits, Curiosity Farms will be a living laboratory for kids to explore and grasp the transformative power of STEM concepts.

“Curiosity Farms brings STEM learning, particularly tech, to the forefront of young minds using a topic everyone is familiar with: our food,” said McKay Christensen, CEO of Thanksgiving Point. “Kids will get curious managing livestock with GPS, build their confidence while exploring the Play Patch Playground, and learn more about the food system, which grows compassion for life and awareness of global issues.”

Curiosity Farms will feature five new experiences:

- **Livestock Learning Lab:** Understand how agriculture is heavily influenced by science and technology in the Livestock Learning Lab. This new building will feature hands-on exhibits about genetics, economics, and breeding. The Livestock Learning Lab will also feature a live chicken egg incubator, a milking parlor where guests can milk cows daily, a rabbit habitat, and a forty-foot-tall alfalfa-themed climbing structure.
- **Innovation Station:** Drone pollinators, robot farm hands, and more will educate guests on the advancements in agriculture technology. Hands-on displays will introduce kids and adults to modern farming techniques and inspire the next generation of farmers.
- **Play Patch Playground:** This all-abilities farm-themed playground features slides, climbers, and engaging sensory activities. The state-of-the-art, inclusive play space offers accessible features throughout, including a We Go Swing designed for wheelchair users and other assistive devices.
- **Grow Tech Gardens:** Visitors get a glimpse into the future of agriculture with innovative hydroponic containers. These specialized plots cultivate high-yield crops without soil, providing both fodder for Curiosity Farms and fresh produce for Harvest Restaurant. Remarkably, this compact system produces crop yields comparable to vast acreage while conserving water, mitigating pests and diseases, and enabling year-round cultivation.
- **Saddle Up Stables:** Learn all about ponies and horses and how they meet various farming needs at Saddle Up Stables. Two pony-walking carousels allow all guests under 10 one free pony ride per



visit. Also, Saddle Up Stables will have learning exhibits about ponies and a lead-around riding experience, where guests will ride a guided pony on an outdoor path.

Curiosity Farms will also have a larger pasture area, new animal pens, a train ride around the pasture, new daily shows and programs, and a brand-new entrance and welcome building.

Thanksgiving Point thanks title sponsor the Bill and Pat Child Foundation for supporting the vision of a new tech and science learning center in Utah.

Thanksgiving Point will host a public ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony at 10:30 am on September 26, 2024. Members of the media and friends of Thanksgiving Point are invited to attend the short program with guest speakers McKay Christensen (Thanksgiving Point CEO), Bill Child (Bill and Pat Child Foundation Founder), Alan Ashton (Thanksgiving Point Founder) and Mark Johnson (Lehi City Mayor) followed by a self-guided tour of Curiosity Farms. Prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony, a tethered hot air balloon will take media and invited guests up 50 feet in the air (weather permitting) for a birds-eye view of the new 9-acre space.

Curiosity Farms at Thanksgiving Point opens to the public on September 30, 2024. Thanksgiving Point members are invited to preview the space from September 26 to September 28 before it opens to the general public. Daily hours are 9 am to 8 pm, closed Sundays. Admission is free for members and children under three. Curiosity Farms is included in Thanksgiving Point's Every Kid Counts: Admission program, meaning kids with families receiving WIC or SNAP benefits can visit for free.

Curiosity Farms is located at 2501 West Wildflower Lane in Lehi, Utah. For ticket prices and additional information, please visit [thanksgivingpoint.org/curiosityfarms](http://thanksgivingpoint.org/curiosityfarms).

###

### **About Thanksgiving Point**

Created in 1995 by Alan and Karen Ashton, Thanksgiving Point is where curious kids grow. Welcoming millions of annual visitors to learn, dine, play, and explore together, Thanksgiving Point's mission is focused on helping all Utah kids. At Thanksgiving Point's award-winning venues and events, kids of all backgrounds gain confidence and get curious about STEM concepts they can use throughout their lives. Thanksgiving Point is located at 3003 North Thanksgiving Way in Lehi, Utah. For more information, call 801.768.2300 or visit [ThanksgivingPoint.org](http://ThanksgivingPoint.org).