

# Some Thoughts on Cancelled Weddings

Greenville, Wisconsin  
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## Homestead Meadows' Policy on Wedding Cancellations

The standard policy of wedding banquet facilities is that wedding deposits are non-refundable. Homestead Meadows follows this standard.

There are several reasons for nonrefundable deposits. Here are some thoughts to help understand why this policy is necessary and reasonable.

### Reason 1

If deposits were refundable, many couples without firm plans or serious commitment would reserve a date and later cancel. Cancelled dates are often not possible to re-book, or are booked on short notice at a much reduced rate.

### Reason 2

The wedding banquet business is a challenging one, as evidenced by the fact that several banquet facilities in Northeast Wisconsin have gone out of business—some more than once—within just the past few years. Some of the reasons for this are:

1. Large group facilities are very costly, and are utilized mostly on weekends.
2. Most wedding couples visit many different facilities before they decide where to book. This results in high expenses scheduling visits and holding personal and telephone discussions.
3. Lots of staff members need to be available on a part-time basis to staff a wedding. This creates challenges in hiring and training help, and dealing with high staff turnover.

When a wedding is cancelled several months after a booking, it is likely that many other couples who may have been interested in the same date had been turned away. Even if the date is booked again later, the marketing expenses for booking the date have added up significantly. It costs a great deal to meet with wedding couples and their families—sometimes repeatedly—and to turn away other couples after a date is booked.

Homestead Meadows has set a reasonable booking deposit of \$500 for a wedding reception, \$300 for a ceremony, and \$700 for a ceremony and reception. These deposits are non-refundable—as is clearly stated on the Wedding Confirmation Sheet.

Please consider this when making your plans. We want you to be sure that Homestead Meadows is the right place when you are ready for your spectacular country wedding.

