

Mini-Zoo Program Rules and Requirements



Description

The Mini-Zoo is an informal program which includes table top animal displays and conversational nature interpretation. Two educators set up the display with about 8-10 live animals. Visitors approach in a self-paced way and self-determine stay time. Educators engage them in friendly conversation, provide fun fact information about the animals being displayed, and remove animals from tanks for visitor touching opportunities when safe and appropriate.

Animals

A total of 8-10 animals usually appears. Animal Ambassadors such as lizards, snakes, frogs, and small mammals like hedgehogs or chinchilla are representative of the kinds of animals that frequently appear. In addition to the table top tank displays, a floor corral with tortoises or armadillos, and/or a free standing display or in hand animal may also appear. The exact animals that appear vary and cannot be guaranteed. Animal health and safety parameters are discussed in the Set-up Requirements section.

Program Fees and Payment Policies

First hour: \$225

Additional hour (or portion thereof): \$125 each (Maximum: 2 hours)

Travel fee: \$35 per hour based on round-trip travel time from the Zoo to your site (outside of Greater Lafayette only)

After Hours fee: \$50 (applies to all Mini-Zoos starting before 8:00am or after 5:00pm or on a holiday)

In addition to the billed program time, the Zoo requires approximately 30-45 minutes of set-up and tear-down time on either end of the program. Set-up and tear-down time is not included in determining your fee.

Payment in full is due 30 days after the program date. Advance payment is not recommended. Please review our Cancellation Policy (included on next page).

Mini-Zoo Set-Up Requirements

- The display requires about 20' laterally. To prevent patrons from approaching from both sides the display should be set up with one side protected by a wall or other barrier. Temporary barriers are acceptable. Please note that once the display is set up it cannot be moved.
- The display should be located within 100ft of designated parking. Parking must be provided. You may be asked to provide an adult assistant to monitor Zoo property/animals if parking and set-up location are out of view of one another.
- The set-up location must be free from hazards, both human and animal, which include vehicle exhaust, chemical fumes, chemical lawn applications, etc. There are a number of potentially toxic environmental factors that are of concern for exotic animals, in particular exotic birds. Your presenter will notify you of any unexpected hazards so that the issue can be addressed. Inability to find a safe resolution in a timely manner could result in the need to cancel the program to ensure animal safety.
- *For indoor venues*, the set-up location must be temperature controlled in the range of 65-85 degrees Fahrenheit and have adequate ventilation.
- *For outdoor venues*, shade must be provided over the entire Mini-Zoo display space for the duration of the program (including set-up and tear-down times.) Shade from a building, trees or temporary tent/awning are all acceptable provided they meet the specification above. We recommend observing shade in the intended area of the display at the time of day and season in which your event will take place to assess.
- *For outdoor venues*, weather parameters must be met in order for the program to take place outside. Temperatures must be between 65 degrees Fahrenheit and 95 degrees Fahrenheit (including wind chill or heat index). Temperatures outside of these parameters require relocation to a suitable indoor location or cancellation of the program. Temperatures above 85 degrees Fahrenheit restrict the number/diversity of animal that can be displayed to those that are heat-hardy (mostly reptiles and invertebrates). Inclement weather, including but not limited to real or forecast extreme temperatures, humidity, high winds, or precipitation require pre-emptive relocation to a suitable indoor location or cancellation of the program (see Cancellation Policy for details.)
- If food is being served at your event, please locate the Mini-Zoo display away from food service areas. We recommend providing soap and water hand-washing opportunities between animal contact areas and food service areas. The Zoo will provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer for visitor self-administration.
- Please locate the Mini-Zoo display away from loud activities (bounce houses, music/speakers, etc) which may elicit a stress response from animals.
- No other non-zoo animals are permitted in the immediate vicinity or in transit pathways of the Zoo's display to adhere to animal disease transfer prevention protocols. Exceptions are made for disability service animals, which may be in the immediate vicinity, but may not come into direct contact with zoo animals.
- Adequate adult supervision of minors is required. This program is designed for small group engagement with a conversational format, and is not appropriate for classroom or group presentations.
- Additional parameters may be given by Zoo staff at the presentation site, as necessary to ensure staff and animal safety and program quality.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be received fourteen (14) days or more prior to the event in order to be eligible for a refund/fee reversal. Columbian Park Zoo reserves the right to cancel any program without refund/fee reversal if requirements set by the Zoo are not met, or in the event that guidelines provided by Zoo staff at the presentation are not respected/followed. In the event of inclement weather which would compromise the health or safety of the animals and/or Zoo staff members or program participants, the Zoo reserves the right to cancel the program, and will work with you to reschedule, offer an account credit, or alternate solution, at the Zoo's discretion.



Contact us with questions:

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