

Seneca Park Zoo - ZooCamp FAQ

How will the Zoo manage group sizes and maintain a level of social distancing?

We have reduced the capacity of each camp session based on the classroom space, so campers can be seated with distance between them, and individual camp groups will remain isolated from each other.

The Zoo is also opening with reduced guest capacities to allow for distancing throughout the campus. Drop-off and pick-up procedures were changed to provide more space at the Zoo's entrance. Specific instructions for drop-off and pick-up will be shared with you closer to your camp.

Will masks be required in camp?

We will follow state and local guidelines regarding masks, which currently require masks for everyone over 2 years of age. However, there will be times in camp, such as during snack and lunch, when masks will not be worn.

Will there be health screenings?

The health and safety of our campers, staff, and animals is our top priority. All Zoo staff and volunteers are screened with a temperature scan upon arriving at the Zoo each day. Campers will also be screened by confirming that neither they nor anyone in their household is exhibiting signs of Covid-19. Anyone, staff or camper, who is sick or has someone in their household who is sick, must stay home.

How will cleanliness be maintained?

Classrooms and commonly touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected multiple times per day. Counselors and campers will also engage in frequent hand washing.

Will there be changes to camp activities?

For the safety of campers, staff, and animals, we will not be participating in some activities that have traditionally been included with camp (e.g. behind-the-scenes, assist a keeper). However, ZooCamp will still immerse kids in wildlife, the environment, and the need to protect and care for both. And, campers will explore nature and animals, create projects, share ideas, and make new friends.

Research has demonstrated the healing and therapeutic effects of nature, and after months of social isolation, children could also benefit from the socialization that camp offers. ZooCamp can provide an escape that focuses on fun and learning.

New Cancellation Policy:

If the Zoo needs to cancel a program, confirmed registrants will be sent an email notifying them of the cancellation and providing them with these options:

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- rescheduling to another date
- receiving a refund of registration fees
- converting registration fees into a tax-deductible contribution

Registrants will have ten business days to make a decision and notify the Zoo. If we have not received an answer after ten business days from our initial contact, the registration fee will be converted to a donation, and the registrant will receive a letter confirming the tax-deductible contribution.

Additional questions?

Please contact us at education@senecazoo.org.