



**Monday, December 5, 2022**

Contact: Donato DiRenzo  
Communications Coordinator  
(585) 336-7202 or [ddirenzo@senecazoo.org](mailto:ddirenzo@senecazoo.org)

## **Seneca Park Zoo Closed December 12 – 16 for Construction Projects & Upgrades**

**Rochester, N.Y.** – Seneca Park Zoo and Monroe County announce the Zoo will be closed to the public from Monday, December 12 through Friday, December 16 to accommodate various construction and installation projects planned to improve Zoo operations and overall guest experience. The Zoo will reopen Saturday, December 17. Improvements include installation of new electric conduit, piping, and plumbing at the front of the Zoo that will support the new Tropics Complex, Welcome Plaza, and Conservation Education Center. While Zoo guests won't notice most of the changes, such as laying new fiber optic cable to support the future growth of the Zoo, guests visiting when the Zoo reopens will see:

- New plaza areas outside of Trailside Café featuring donor brick viewing areas
- Upgrades to the outdoor viewing area for North American river otters
- The conversion of what is currently known as the ECO Center to Creatures from the River's Edge, which will include new signage and habitat enhancements, cosmetic upgrades, and an overall more contemporary look and feel.

Zoo Superintendent Steve Lacy knows how much the Zoo means to so many in the community, and while closing is not ideal, is worth it to make these necessary improvements.

"This is an exciting time for the Zoo," said Lacy. "We are dedicated to not only providing world class habitats for the animals, but also delivering an amazing experience for our guests. While we are disappointed we can't be open to guests for the week, the time will give us an opportunity to make improvements that will benefit the Zoo once we are back open."

The Zoo will be back open Saturday morning, December 17 (9:30 a.m. for members, 10 a.m. for general admission). Tickets can be purchased online at [senecazoo.org/tickets](https://senecazoo.org/tickets).

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Internationally, and in our own backyard, Seneca Park Zoo plays a key role in species survival. Chartered as an educational institution in 1957 by New York State, the Seneca Park Zoo Society plays an integral role in supporting Monroe County, the owners and operators of the Zoo. Together, we are working to bring animals back from the brink of extinction.