

Lehigh Valley Zoo COVID-19 Camp Safety Protocols

In light of COVID-19 pandemic, the following policies have been put into place to make our Summer Camps compliant with CDC, State, and AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums - our accrediting body) guidelines. The below guidelines will be mandatory of all zoo staff, interns, and volunteers. The below guidelines will be enforced, where possible per individual, for all of our guests and campers.

General Guidelines to Be Enforced Throughout the Camp Day:

1. Stay home when not you're not healthy

- a. Staff and campers should stay home if they have tested positive for COVID-19, are showing any of the symptoms of COVID-19, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has had symptoms of COVID-19.
- b. If a staff member or camper comes to camp with any of the symptoms listed by the CDC as COVID-19 symptoms, they will be isolated from the group and sent home immediately.
- c. To encourage parents and campers to stay home when they're sick, experiencing symptoms, or exposed to someone showing symptoms, we are offering refunds for any missed days of camp for COVID-19 related reasons.

2. Temperature checks for all children and staff will be conducted upon arrival each day

- a. Temperatures will be confidentially taken each day and recorded as a pass or fail of the temperature checks (*to stay in accordance HIPPA privacy rules*). If a person comes in with a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, they will be sent home immediately. Parents or guardians are required to stay
- b. Staff, interns, and volunteers are required to be symptom free for at least 2 weeks before interacting with campers or other staff

3. Social distancing will be enforced whenever possible

- a. Activities, games, crafts, and curriculum have been adapted to encourage social distancing whenever possible.
- b. When social distancing is not possible, masks will be mandatory.

4. General hygiene and regular hand washing

- a. There will be regular hand washing throughout the day as well as designated times they are required to wash their hands (ex. before lunch or after a group activity)
- b. Campers will be asked to refrain from touching their faces and will be taught skills to assist in minimizing this.
- c. To make these "rules" more fun, camp counselors have designed games to teach proper techniques like appropriate and effective hand washing.
- d. When a camper or staff sneeze or cough, safe practices will be encouraged and hand washing will be required afterwards.

5. Sanitizer used when hand washing is not as easily available

- a. There will be times your camper will be out on the preserve and will not have access to hand washing stations. Camp counselors will have sanitizer with them at all times and will regularly be offering it to the campers.

6. Cloth face masks are mandatory

- a. Cloth face masks are required to be with the camper at all times.
 - i. Masks are mandatory especially when around animals or indoors.
 - ii. Masks may be removed during snack/lunch times, as well as for water breaks.
 - iii. Masks may be removed when playing in the creek.
- b. Staff, interns, and volunteers are mandated to wear masks throughout their shift unless it would pose a danger to their health at any point (*i.e. if they're in the creek with children doing a creek study*)
- c. Lehigh Valley Zoo Camp staff will have back-up masks for campers who forget a mask at home, or dirty their mask at camp. However, we recommend that you send your camper with a back-up mask as well.
- d. If a parent has questions or concerns about face masks or the requirement, they can contact Rachel Kranick at rkranick@lvzoo.org. There is also more information below.

7. Whenever possible, outside activities will be prioritized and indoor spaces will be avoided

- a. Activities, games, crafts, and curriculum have been adapted to encourage as much outside time as possible
- b. Camp will go on rain or shine and campers should expect to stay outside, rain or shine, unless it is dangerous for any reason (*i.e. thunderstorms*)
- c. When needed, indoor spaces are available for campers to utilize, but masks will be mandatory indoors.

Camper Drop-Off and Pick-Up Policies:

- 1. Adults dropping off or picking up their kids should not leave their car.**
 - a. We will be providing a tag on your first day that will have your campers name on it. This tag should be used to identify yourself as the person picking up the child along with the Kid Code when applicable. The tag should be placed in the front windshield.
 - b. An employee will retrieve your child from your vehicle or deliver the child to your vehicle directly.
- 2. Parents are encouraged to wear masks while dropping off or picking up their child, even as they remain in their vehicles.**
- 3. Parents are expected to stay with their child while we perform a temperature check.**
 - a. If the child fails the temp check, they will be given back to the parent immediately.
- 4. During drop off and pick up, each camp group will be kept separate to avoid mixing.**
- 5. Staff will be doing their best to maintain appropriate social distancing from other adults during these times.**
- 6. Please plan for a lengthier drop off and pick up experience than normal.**

The Lehigh Valley Zoo is open to the general public daily and functions in accordance with CDC, State, and AZA guidelines and expectations. In addition to a much longer list, the following things are in place to ensure safety of all of our guests, staff, interns, volunteers, and animals:

- Guests of the zoo will be encouraged to wear masks when possible for the individual
- Appropriate signage throughout the zoo informing people on safe COVID-19 practices
- Access to necessary supplies including hand washing stations and sanitizer
- Staff, interns, and volunteers stationed throughout the zoo to help control enforce safe practices such as capacity enforcement and / or social distancing
- Cleaning and disinfecting practices throughout the zoo
 - In accordance with any CDC, state, or AZA guidelines, the zoo is actively sanitizing and cleaning any shared spaces on a regular basis.
 - In accordance with any CDC, state, or AZA guidelines, the zoo is actively sanitizing and cleaning any shared objects on a regular basis.
 - The playground will remain closed until it can be appropriately and completely disinfected

Additional efforts the Lehigh Valley Zoo is taking to protect their summer camp guests:

- Camp groups have been modified and we are limiting the mixing of groups as best as possible.
 - Group sizes have been cut down to minimize the number of campers together
 - The same two counselors will be assigned to the same group of children for the whole week to minimize exposure
 - The campers will stay in the same group throughout the week (cohort)
 - Extended care times will be designated to two zoo representatives who will be consistent for the whole week
 - Group mixing will be avoided whenever possible
- Pre-packaged, individual snacks will be provided by the counselors during the day. There will be no sharing of food items.
 - Campers will be expected to bring their own lunch each day and will not be permitted to share items, including siblings in other groups.

Reporting a Sick Camper:

- If your camper is not healthy enough to attend camp at the standards of the CDC, please email rkranick@lvzoo.org or call 610-799-4171 ext. 228 or 229.
- If another camper tests positive for COVID-19 during one of the weeks your child is attending camp, you will be contacted with general information. Any personal information will be kept private.

Note for Campers at Higher Risk for Illness or who are Immunocompromised:

- We value the privacy of our campers. If your camper needs special circumstances or requirements due to a higher risk for illness or they are immunocompromised, please reach out to Rachel Kranick (rkranick@lvzoo.org) **BEFORE** registering for camp to discuss possible modifications or options.

- ❖ **Camp will be disbanded if a child tests positive for COVID-19. Camp could be suspended or disbanded if a camper exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 or is exposed directly to someone who is.**

According to the CDC, people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. As of February 2021, the CDC reports:

“Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- *Fever or chills*
- *Cough*
- *Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing*
- *Fatigue*
- *Muscle or body aches*
- *Headache*
- *New loss of taste or smell*
- *Sore throat*
- *Congestion or runny nose*
- *Nausea or vomiting*
- *Diarrhea*

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.”

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/wolf-administration-releases-summer-camp-and-recreation-guidance/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Certification

I understand the above guidelines that have been put in place to ensure the health and safety of all staff and guests of the Lehigh Valley Zoo. I intend to abide by all of these guidelines. I understand that failure to do so will lead to removal from my child in camp.

*****This form must be signed as part of the camp registration process!
Please visit your Household Account through our Camp Brain Online
Registration Portal to complete this mandatory form.*****