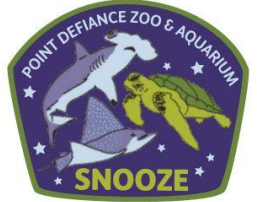




Dear Zoo Snooze Participant,

Thank you for supporting the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium by registering for our Group Zoo Snooze Overnight Program. Your support helps us achieve our mission of awakening a connection to Wild Life with everyone in the Pacific Northwest.

Please carefully read the following information regarding Group Snooze program policies and procedures and distribute this letter to every parent of a child attending the Snooze.



Zoo Snooze Patches: Special patches to remember your Zoo Snooze experience are available for purchase at \$2.00 each. If you would like to purchase patches for your group, please have the group leader let us know at the time of finalizing the snooze.

Adult-Child Ratio: We require a ratio of one responsible adult for every seven children attending an overnight program.

Program Fees & Cancellation Policy: Zoo Snooze overnight programs require a **non-refundable deposit**. For complete details regarding fees and cancellation policy, please refer to your Snooze contract.

Check-In Process: Group leaders are responsible for collecting completed PDZA Program Participant forms for each child and adult attending the program and turning them in to Snooze Hosts on the night of the Snooze. These forms are attached to the confirmation email received by the group leader. **It is vital that we have up-to-date contact, medical, and allergy information for each participant whether or not their parent/guardian is present at the Zoo Snooze.**

Check-In Location: Zoo Staff will meet you on your scheduled night promptly at 7:00 PM behind the Pacific Seas Aquarium, directly across from the “Playground in Point Defiance Park”. You can navigate to “Playground in Point Defiance Park” using Google Maps. Group Leaders will also receive a document via email with maps and parking directions to distribute to attendees. Check-in is NOT at the front of the Zoo!

If you require additional directional assistance on the night of your program, please call the Snooze Host phone (253) 888-2746 or the Night Security cell phone at (253) 677-7093. Unfortunately, heavy traffic, bad weather, and road construction are not unusual for the Seattle-Tacoma metro area, so please plan your travel times accordingly.

Food: Dinner and snacks* are NOT provided. All Zoo Snoozes are completely NUT-FREE. Please do not bring or send your child with snacks that contain peanut or tree nut ingredients. **Please notify staff of any food allergies and/or restrictions on your child’s participation form.** PDZA is not able to meet every participant’s individual dietary restriction, and you may wish to pack a snack and/or breakfast specifically for your child.

***Snacks:** We recommend that the group leader or participants bring snacks. There will be time for a snack break between evening activities – or while setting up personal sleeping areas.

Typical Snooze breakfast (provided Saturday morning):

- Small bagel/cream cheese
- Yogurt
- Granola/Granola Bars
- Fruit
- Coffee
- Tea
- Water
- Milk

Check-Out Process: In the morning, all Snooze participants with vehicles will be directed to relocate to the staff parking lot (behind the Carousel and Elephant Barn), to be more easily accessible for departure after the morning activities. Zoo Snooze activities end at 9:30 AM the day after arrival. Zoo admission for the rest of the day is included in your program fee. **Group or Family leaders are responsible for ensuring that children are picked up by authorized adults.**

Child Discipline: The designated group or family leader is ultimately responsible for providing guidance and discipline to children attending the overnight program. Snooze Hosts will communicate with the designated leader or family member to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all participants and staff. We reserve the right to require any participant to leave the program if deemed necessary by PDZA staff to ensure safety or program quality.

Sleeping Location: You will be sleeping in the Pacific Seas Aquarium in the Northwest Waters and Jellyfish galleries. During sleeping hours, participants must remain at least 2 ft. from the edge of the window so as not to disturb the animals. For the health and safety of the animals, some lights are kept on throughout the night. Restrooms are located nearby. Snooze Hosts will sleep in the aquarium in a location identified to group/family leaders for emergency purposes. **Mixed sex groups will be responsible for determining adherence to their own sleeping policies.** No group or family patron will exit the aquarium during sleeping hours unless directed to do so by PDZA staff. Smoking of any kind is prohibited in any Metro Parks facility or grounds.

Items to Bring: (Keep in mind that you will have to carry all of your gear to the sleeping area.)

- **Appropriate clothing for weather and being outdoors.** We will be walking around the zoo outside at night and in the morning, rain or shine. We highly recommend checking the weather forecast and planning accordingly.
- **Comfortable close-toed walking shoes-** see above
- **Sleeping bag/blankets/pillow**
- **Sleeping pad-** please note that the floors are carpeted concrete. Cots are allowed. Blow up mattresses are allowed; please bring your own pump, outlets are available.
- **Flashlight** (for outdoor night tour – for the safety of the animals, flashlights are not to be used indoors)
- **Toiletries-** toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, etc.
- **Pajamas or sleepwear**
- **Change of clothes for the next day**
- **Small duffle bag or backpack-** you will have to carry your own items to/from the sleeping area

Other Personal items:

- **Snacks or activities-** for after the evening program
- **Reusable water bottle** - drinking fountains and a bottle filler are available near the sleeping area
- **Ear plugs or headphones and music player**
- **Prescription Medication:** If a child requires prescription drugs during program hours, it is the responsibility of an adult participant to provide this medication. Zoo staff are not responsible for ensuring that program participants take medications.

Prohibited Items:

- **Glass containers**
- **Glow sticks, Piñatas and balloons (for animal safety)**
- **Cigars, cigarettes, or e-cigarettes-** it is against park policy for any person to smoke or light cigars, cigarettes, tobacco or other smoking material, including electronic smoking devices within a Metro Parks Tacoma park. There will be no exit/re-entry allowed during the Zoo Snooze program.
- **Alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs-** all participants must be sober during the program.

General Outline of Activities:

Friday Evening (These are the activities, exact times will vary.)

- 7:00 pm – Check-in (*dinner not provided*)
- 7:30 pm – 9:00ish pm
 - Carry belongings to sleeping areas
 - Welcome to Baja Bay!
 - Experience the Tidal Touch Zone
 - Explore the Pacific Seas Aquarium
- 9:00ish pm – Outdoor night tour of Rocky Shores
- 10:00ish pm – Prepare to Snooze
- 10:30 pm – Lights out!

Saturday Morning

- 6:30 am - Wake up, pack up and load up!
- 7:15 am - Head to breakfast
- 7:30 am - Breakfast in the Plaza Café (typically includes bagels and cream cheese, yogurt, gluten free granola bars, fruit, milk, coffee, tea)
- 8:00 am - Visit the Kids' Zone and Asian Forest Sanctuary
- 9:00 am – Final group activity: A private animal encounter in the Asian Forest Sanctuary!
- 9:30 am – Say goodbye to Snooze Hosts
- Saturday admission to the Zoo is included for those who wish to stay and explore on their own.

Emergency Contact Number: On the Friday of your Snooze - In the event of an emergency or a late arrival, please call the Snooze Host phone at (253) 888-2746 OR Zoo security at (253) 677-7093. For non-emergency questions before your Snooze, please email Reserve@pdza.org. (This email is checked M-F 8a-4p.)

Accommodation Request: Metro Parks Tacoma strives toward providing inclusive programs to all community members. People of all abilities are invited to consider registering for any recreational program Metro Parks Tacoma has to offer provided they meet the minimum eligibility requirements. We can usually build customized support to suit your needs. To request an accommodation please allow 10 business days prior to the start of the program. Please contact Cathleen McConnell at cathleen.mcconnell@pdza.org for an accommodation request form.