



## Field Trip Information

Racine Zoo

2131 North Main Street Racine, WI 53402

Conservation Education Department Phone: 262-636-9580 Fax: 262-636-9307

Website: [www.racinezoo.org](http://www.racinezoo.org)

Email: [education@racinezoo.org](mailto:education@racinezoo.org)

### Making a Reservation:

Field trip rates are reserved for schools or affiliated school groups. They are also for groups that have 20 or more people. If your group size is less than 20, you are welcome to pay the \$100.00 minimum. Field trip reservation forms are available on-line or by calling our Conservation Education Department at 262-636-9580 and registering over the phone. Completed forms should be dropped off, e-mailed, faxed, or mailed. All groups coming to the Zoo must be pre-registered. All groups must submit a completed reservation form at least 2 weeks prior to arriving. A confirmation will be emailed to you within 7 days after the submission of your registration form. Please contact us if you have not received a confirmation one week after you submitted your form.

### Cost of Admission:

Students and chaperones are \$3.00 per person from November through March, and \$5.00 per person from April through October. You receive 1 free chaperone for every 8 paid participants. All additional chaperones are charged the group rate.

### Final Numbers:

Final numbers are due **1 week** prior to your arrival, no exceptions. If we do not have a final count and your numbers change, add-ons will be charged regular Zoo admission.

### Arrivals and Payments:

Please check-in with the admissions booth when you arrive to let them know you are here for a field trip and show them your confirmation paperwork. The admissions booth will count each student and chaperone as they walk through the gate.

Payment is due at the gate. You may pay by check, cash, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover).

If you are going to be late please contact us as soon as possible at 262-636-9580.

### Bus Parking:

There is a free Zoo parking lot one block west of the Zoo on Wisconsin Avenue. The bus may temporarily park in front of the Zoo on Main Street only for the drop off or pick up of passengers.

### Rainy Day/Severe Weather:

Please check the weather before you depart for the Racine Zoo. The Zoo is an outdoor facility and there are no refunds once you have entered. If you need to cancel your reservation, please contact us to reschedule.

### Lunch at the Zoo:

Bagged lunches are permitted in the Zoo. *No coolers or storage areas are available for lunches during your visit.* You may have your hand stamped when exiting the Zoo to retrieve your lunches from the bus to re-enter. Pre-ordered lunches are available from the Jungle Grill.

### Picnic Areas:

Picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are located throughout the Zoo. A picnic area may be reserved for an extra fee of \$50 for one hour. Please contact us for rental information and reservations.

### Booking an Education Program:

Education programs are a great way to enhance learning at the Zoo. Our programs are 30-45 minutes and include 4 live animals. Programs must be scheduled in advance and are very popular. Please contact us for pricing and availability.

### Cost-Free Add on:

The Racine Zoo's Self-guided Tour is a great way to enhance your group's learning experience on a budget. This kit allows teachers to create their own experience for their students to bestmatch their learning goals. Please contact us to request a self-guided tour packet.

### Train Rides:

The Zoo Choo Express ride is \$3.00 per person. One paid adult must accompany each car with children under the age of 13.

Tickets can be purchased when you arrive at the Zoo and are non-refundable. The train runs seasonally and weather-permitting. *Groups must let the Zoo know in advance if they are interested in the Zoo Choo Express.*

### Zoo Souvenirs:

The Zootique gift shop is located at the Zoo's entrance. We require a 1:8 ratio of adults to students in the gift shop at all times. *Groups must let the Zoo know in advance if they are interested in visiting the Zootique.*

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the zoo rules?**

- Chaperones should be with students at all times and managing their behavior.
- Please do not feed or tease any animal. Anything you feed them or throw in their habitats could make them sick.
- Do not yell or scream at any animal. This may cause undue stress to the animal and is disrespectful.
- Stay behind all guard rails. They are there to protect you and the animals. Do not lean over rails to take photos.
- Please do not use flash photography. It can be very disturbing for many sensitive animals.
- Roller skates or roller blades, skateboards, scooters, Heelies and bicycles are not permitted at the Racine Zoo.
- We have placed trash receptacles and recycling bins throughout the Zoo so that you can leave the grounds the way you found them.

**Failure to follow these rules may result in your group being asked to leave. Please be sure to share these rules with students and chaperones prior to your visit.**

### **How many chaperones will I need?**

The Zoo suggests a 1:8 ratio of adults to students. If your group requires extra chaperones or aides for special needs please contact the Conservation Education Department.

### **If we are interested in a program, how much will it cost and how do we reserve a spot?**

Programs are \$8.00/person with a minimum charge of \$160.00. Your admission to the Zoo is included in the program price. Education programs are a great way to enhance your group's learning experience at the Zoo. Our programs are 30-45 minutes and include 4 live animals. Programs are very popular and time slots book quickly so they must be scheduled in advance. Programs can be booked over the phone at 262-636-9580 or via email at [education@racinezoo.org](mailto:education@racinezoo.org). Please have a couple dates and times in mind when calling. The Conservation Education Department will let you know where your program will be held at the Zoo.

### **What if our group is running late and we have scheduled a program?**

Due to the popularity of our programs, we may not be able to accommodate your group if you arrive late. Please make every effort to call the Zoo at (262) 636-9189 if your group will be arriving late for your program. We will do our best to accommodate late arrivals, but we reserve the right to cancel or adjust program length depending on the availability of staff. No refund will be given to late arrivals.

### **Should we wear name tags?**

We strongly encourage each child to be identified with school name, teacher name, and school phone number.

### **What can we do for lunch?**

Bagged lunches are permitted in the Zoo. No coolers or storage areas are available for lunches during your visit. You may have your hand stamped for re-entry when exiting the Zoo to retrieve your lunches from the bus. Picnic tables are available on a first come first serve basis and are located throughout the Zoo. A picnic area may be reserved for an extra fee of \$50 for one hour. Please contact us for rental information and reservations. You may also purchase boxed kids' meals from the Jungle Grill. All meals must be pre-ordered at least two weeks in advance in order to receive the meals at the group rate. Contact the zoo for more information or to request boxed lunches.

### **What if it is raining the day of our visit?**

Weather can be unpredictable in Wisconsin so we will do our best to accommodate you. As long as your group has not entered the Zoo, you are welcome to reschedule. If you have entered the Zoo, we are unable to give any refunds. If you have scheduled a program, we will do our best to find an alternate date but cannot guarantee it. To reschedule a program or field trip please contact the Conservation Education Department staff at 262-636- 9580 or [education@racinezoo.org](mailto:education@racinezoo.org).

### **Where are your restrooms located?**

Restrooms are conveniently located at the entrance, downstairs in the Vanishing Kingdom Historic Main Building, at the Jungle Grill, and near the Watering Hole. Changing tables with a maximum weight capacity of 50 lbs. are available in all restrooms.