

Photo/Video Policy

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo



POLICY

CREATED: 1/07 | REVISED: 10/23 | REVIEWED: 10/23

Photography/Videography by Zoo Guests

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo guests may photograph, film, or videotape activities that can be seen from public areas within the zoo if the photos or videos are for non-commercial purposes. Admission costs apply; please visit kidszoo.org for current hours and admission prices.

For the comfort of the animals and guests, flash photography indoors is prohibited.

No photography/videography equipment should block a guest path or disrupt other nearby guests. If equipment is deemed disruptive by staff, the guest may be asked to remove gear from the zoo.

Filming of other zoo guests without permission is not allowed.

Zoo team members reserve the right to approach photographers/videographers about their work. If policies are not being followed, guests may be asked to return their equipment to their vehicle before enjoying the rest of their visit at the zoo.

Photography/Videography by Commercial Entities

As one of only ten AZA-accredited zoos that do not receive tax support, we do not allow professional photographers, commercial businesses, or organizations to use the zoo without a use fee. Complete payment for photography and videography are due prior to entering the zoo on the pre-determined date. Commercial projects may include, but are not limited to, any photos/videos that are being sold, include paid talent, or promoting a commercial business, product, or service. Fees will be determined on a case-by-case basis by a member of the senior staff.

Commercial projects must be approved a minimum of two weeks in advance by the Director of Communication. The Director of Communication, a senior staff member, or someone appointed by them must accompany the photographer/videographer throughout the duration of their visit. The Director of Communication or a senior staff member must approve in advance any staff interviews with the media.

Photography/Videography by Media Entities

All members of the media are required to schedule and coordinate onsite interviews, photography, and videography with the Director of Communications or communications team in advance of their visit.

Media must check in at Guest Services upon arrival to the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo and will be escorted by a member of the zoo staff throughout the duration of their visit.

Members of the media do not have permission to interview guests while on zoo grounds without the permission of the Director of Communication.

Behind the scenes access to the media is not permitted to ensure the safety and wellbeing of both zoo staff and animals. If deemed appropriate by the Director of Communication, the Communication team and Animal Care staff will work together to determine a safe distance and vantage point from which media can work. Animal staff reserves the right to restrict access at any moment.

The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo may not be able to accommodate members of the media who appear at the zoo unscheduled.

Photography/Videography by Team Members and Volunteers

Team members and volunteers may take photographs in non-public areas only for specific reasons such as research, education, animal record-keeping, and personal use and only with the knowledge and permission of the Area Curator or senior staff. Such photographs and video may not be published in any form, nor may they be used for commercial gain. Any photos or video taken in non-public areas of the zoo are subject to the zoo's confidentiality policy.

Photographs and video donated to the zoo, including those posted in the Facebook Storytelling group, by team members and volunteers, become the property of the zoo. Upon donation, the zoo maintains the right to use the materials and may be freely used without credit to the photographer.

Drone Photography/Videography

For the safety of guests and zoo animals, the launching and/or operation of a drone from or above the zoo is strictly prohibited as the zoo is considered a "No Fly Zone."

Any exceptions should be granted by Director of Communication in partnership with the Director of Animal Care, Director of Operations, and Executive Director prior.

Use of Images of Zoo Guests

For liability purposes, guests must be made aware of the fact they could be photographed or filmed while they are at the zoo. This information is distributed to or posted for zoo guests:

By entering the zoo, guests acknowledge that they may and/or agree to be filmed, videotaped, and/or photographed by a Fort Wayne Zoological Society representative and give the Society permission to use their photograph and likeness in all media, now known and hereafter developed, worldwide, indefinitely. Guests acknowledge that the Society shall own all rights, title, and interests in all photographs and materials created incorporating the photograph or likeness.