

Brookfield Zoo's latest news to know!

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Dear Member,

As you may already know, the Chicago Zoological Society made the decision on Wednesday to close all zoo facilities, both grounds and buildings, to the public through April 30. During Brookfield Zoo's closure, essential animal care specialists and veterinary staff will continue providing the animals with the same high-level of care we always do. While the gates may be temporarily closed, we hope you'll continue to engage with and support us. Read below to find out how you can do both. And you'll find more information about our temporary close [here](#).



Brookfield Zoo Needs Your Help

As a non-profit organization, we rely on ticket sales, zoo visits, memberships, education program fees, donations, and meeting revenue to operate. With the zoo closed at

this time, the effects of the pandemic will have a significant impact on our overall operating budget.

One of our largest expenses, which cannot be reduced, is the daily care and feeding of our animals. **It costs roughly \$41,000 per day for all of the 2,500+ animals under our care**, which includes:

- Purchasing their food
- Preparing their food
- Testing their food for quality
- Feeding each animal, multiple times per day
- Daily cleaning of their habitat
- Training to assist in their daily care (like sitting on a scale to ensure a healthy weight)
- Various veterinary care (preventative health care, physical exams, responding to illnesses)
- Providing an engaging, active, and enriching environment for the animals. (much like many of you are learning to do with children stuck at home)

Our Animal Programs staff continues to work tirelessly to keep our animals in the best possible health. Please consider making a gift that will immediately support our animal care and welfare programs, as well as, other critical operations of the Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo. Your contribution is so important and will be used in the area of greatest need at the zoo during this uncharted and challenging time.

[Donate Today](#)



We're Bringing Brookfield Zoo To You

Looking for ways to make your kids' time at home entertaining and educational? Or just need a fun break for yourself? Join Brookfield Zoo on Facebook every weekday for the next several weeks at 11:00 a.m. Central for a **"Bring The Zoo To You" Facebook Live** featuring one of our animals as well as plenty of educational, informative insight from one of our Animal Care Specialists.

If you can't make it at 11:00, that's okay. The video will be saved afterward on [Facebook](#) as well as on our [YouTube channel](#). And if you're not already following us on Facebook, now's the perfect time to start. It's a great way to interact with your zoo even if you're unable to visit us right now.

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