

Potawatomi Zoo Fact Sheet

Description: Founded in 1902, The Potawatomi Zoo is the oldest zoo in Indiana. The Potawatomi Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), assuring that an institution is committed to the highest standards in animal care, ethics, conservation, and education. The Zoo is home to over 400 species of animals situated on 23 acres. A 2004 Issue of Child Magazine ranked Potawatomi Zoo as one of the 20 Best Zoos for Kids.

Location: The Potawatomi Zoo is located on 23 acres adjacent to Potawatomi Park and is close to I-80/90 toll road and Bypass 20.

Attendance: The second most visited attraction next to Notre Dame, the Zoo had 180,000 people attend in 2008.

Zoo Hours: The Zoo opens April 3, 2009 and is open through November. Hours are: 10:00 to 5:00 daily. Last admission sold ½ hour before close

Attractions:

Zoo Train - The Zoo Train is a 1/3-scale locomotive that tours the zoo on a half-mile track. For \$2 per ride, the train takes zoo-goers past our zoo pond, bison pen, llama yard, veterinary hospital and Australia. All proceeds from the train go directly toward building new exhibits or improving existing habitats at the zoo.

Australian Walk-a-bout - Our Australia walk-a-bout allows you to stroll through the outback surrounded by kangaroo, wallaby, and several species of Australian birds.

Zoo Farm – features animals from our backyard farm including a goat pen where children and grown ups alike can interact with the goats. Pony rides are also available for \$3.

Veterinary Hospital - The Zoo's Veterinary Hospital was opened in May of 2002 and this state of the art facility is a necessary component of the daily operation of the zoo. The 8,000 square foot hospital is a buzz with animal activity with annual physicals, surgeries for sick or injured animals, and quarantine facilities for new additions to the animal collection.

Red Panda Forest - Opened in the summer of 2002 with the support of the physicians of Radiology Inc the exhibit's pandas have produced five cubs, which have delighted zoo visitors as well as increased the numbers of these very rare animals.

Lion Exhibit Expansion – Completed in the summer of 2006 the lions, Tango and Onyo, now have access to an additional 2,200 square feet, which includes another rocky cliff, a cool grassy area to roll around in, and they can see eye to eye with zoo visitors. This addition enriches the lion's lives and provides great animal viewing for our visitors.

Butterflies in Living Color! Open Memorial Day - Labor Day (\$2.00 per admission, two and under free) - Completed and opened in May 2008, this exhibit features exotic butterflies from all around the world. This is a full immersion exhibit, where you enter a lush, plant filled garden where butterflies fly freely around visitors.

Rare and Endangered Animals: The Zoo participates in the Species Survival Plan, which creates a plan for the future of animals living in zoos. The following animals are part of the SPP program here at Potawatomi Zoo:

Colobus Monkey
Debrazza's Monkey
Diana Monkey
Cotton-top Tamarins
Golden Lion Tamarins
Ringtail Lemurs
Amur Tiger
African Lion
African Wild Dogs
Chinese Alligators
White Naped Cranes
Red Pandas
Radiated Tortoise
Toucans (Swanson's and Keel-billed)
Amur Leopards
Snow Leopards
Giant Anteater

Membership: You and your family can enjoy free, unlimited admission to the Potawatomi Zoo for one year and free or discounted admission to over 100 participating zoos and aquariums across the country. Call 574-288-4639 or visit www.potawatomizoo.org for more details.

Guest amenities: Zoo grounds and most restrooms are wheelchair accessible. Wheelchairs and strollers are available at the gate. Restaurant/snack shop, gift shop and ATM are available.

Information:

Potawatomi Zoo: 574-235-9800
Potawatomi Zoological Society: 574-288-4639

Website: www.potawatomizoo.org

Media Assistance: Potawatomi Zoological Society, Marcy Dean, Society Director at 574-288-4639.