



Notice to parents and youth of the Keeper Camp program



Welcome to the Magnetic Hill Zoo Summer Education Programs for 2023!

We have enclosed a few reminders when preparing to attend camp this summer.

What to bring

- Campers are required to provide their own steel toe boots. Campers must wear these boots whenever they are working in an Animal Care section. Campers can wear sneakers for the remainder of the day.
- Campers need to bring their own morning snack and lunch each day. The camp will not provide any food.
- Campers should dress according to the weather as all activities are conducted rain or shine.
- Sunscreen and water bottle.

What not to bring

- All peanut and nut products are prohibited at camp.
- Any valuable or breakable items such as cameras, iPods, iPhones, iPads, cell phones, handheld video games, MP3 players, etc.
- Lunches or snacks that require a microwave or fridge.
- Money (No canteen days this year.)

Camp hours

- The drop-off time is at 9 am.
- The pick-up time is at 4:30 pm. Camp programming operates from 9:00am to 4:30pm.
- A \$35 fine will be issued in case of no justifiable reason for late pick-ups after 4.30 pm.
- Campers must be accompanied by an adult to the Education Center every morning and picked up at the same place every evening. However, on the first day of camp, the parent or guardian can sign a form granting permission for their keeper camper to wait, without adult supervision, outside the Education gate before 8 am and/or after 4:30 pm.
- The footpath leading to the Education Center is located immediately to the left of the Zoo's Entrance Building and is accessed from the Zoo's parking lot.
- Parents must advise the leaders if a different adult will be picking up or dropping off their camper.
- Each day, all campers need to bring:
 - 2 nut free snacks
 - A nut free lunch
 - A water bottle
 - One mask (in some enclosure, you will need to wear a mask to protect the animals from diseases)
 - Weather appropriate clothing (rain or shine)
 - Sunscreen
 - Comfortable shoes (sneakers and sneaker-like sandals are recommended)

- Steel toe boots or boot caps

- sunhat

Zoo clothing

- All campers will be given a zoo t-shirt. Campers are required to wear their camp t-shirt during all activities that take place in the Animal Care sections.

Steel toe boots and steel toe boot caps

- Campers are required to provide their own steel toe boots that cover the ankle. Boots that are similar to shoes, leaving the ankle exposed, are not permitted. Alternatively, campers may wear steel toe “boot caps.” These boot caps go over a regular pair of boots.
- If you’d like to purchase these boot caps for your camper, the boot caps must be worn with a pair of boots that cover the ankle. Wearing the toe caps over sneakers, sandals, or other non-athletic footwear that doesn’t cover the ankle is not acceptable. Both steel toe boots and boot caps must be CSA approved.
- There are 2 different styles that can be ordered online from Amazon.ca and Uline.ca. Locally, one style can be found at Brunswick Fyre on Edinburg Drive.

Policies

- During camp, campers may be videotaped or photographed by or on behalf of the MHZoo. Attendance at camp serves as permission for use of these images for the promotion of the Zoo’s education programs. Parents can opt out of this policy by indicating on their camper’s registration form.
- If a camper is deliberately physically and/or verbally aggressive towards other camper(s) or staff, the camper will be immediately dismissed from camp for the remainder of the day. Upon consultation between parents and staff, the camper may be permitted to return to camp the next day. However, if a second incident occurs during the same week, the camper will be dismissed from camp for the remainder of the week. Parents/guardians will be required to pick up their child within an hour of being notified of the incident(s).
- Zoo Camp welcomes all campers and strives to include and support campers with additional needs. Campers with additional needs may attend camp with or without a caregiver, depending on their abilities. A caregiver is required for campers who have caregivers in educational institutions/home school settings and/or if a camper is not able to participate during a camp day on his or her own, due to additional needs. The caregiver receives free admission to zoo camp.
- If the Zoo staff determine that a camper requires a caregiver in order to ensure a positive camp experience for that camper and the other campers in their group, the parents/guardians will be required to provide a caregiver or an alternative arrangement.
- If a camper does not have the ability and willingness to speak English or French while at camp, parents/guardians must provide translation/interpretation.
- All campers must follow all safety rules and regulations as set by the Animal Care and Education Staff of the Magnetic Hill Zoo. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations causing potential endangerment to themselves, other Magnetic Hill Zoo Staff, the general public, and the animals will result in immediate removal from the Program without refund.

- No refunds are given if a cancellation is received within 14 days of the first day of camp in which a camper is registered (except in the case of unforeseen circumstances).

Thank you for your co-operation.

Allie Desharnais (Director of Camp)