Please note:
Face coverings (over nose and mouth) are required for Zoo entry and at all times during your visit. Practice social distancing, staying at least 6 feet away from others not in your party.
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

We look forward to welcoming our members and guests back to the world’s largest natural habitat zoo. We have made some changes to our operations to help ensure your safety during this time. We ask that you read the below information to help you plan your visit.

Admissions and Ticketing:
- Please print your reservation confirmation or tickets for the most efficient entry. Tickets can also be scanned from your smart phone. North Carolina Zoo Society members please have your valid membership card and a photo I.D. along with the reservation confirmation for entry.
- If you made reservations to use your previously purchased Zoo admission tickets you must present those tickets along with your reservation for zoo entry.
- During this period, we will not have walk-up ticket sales. Please ensure that everyone in your group has a pre-purchased timed entry ticket or reservation, including those under two years of age.
- Only the North America entrance and parking lot will be open for entry and exit. You can see the entire Zoo from this entrance.
- To keep crowd size at the gate to a minimum we ask that you please do not arrive before your reserved entry time. We are unable to accommodate early entries. Entry times have a 30 minute window (Example: 9:30 am ticket entry is 9:30am – 10am)
- Face Coverings (over nose and mouth) are required for guests five and older for Zoo entry and at all times during your visit unless stationary and actively eating or drinking. Practice social distancing, staying at least 6 feet away from others not in your party. Under the Governor’s Executive Order #180, face coverings are required both inside public places and outdoor areas where it is not possible to consistently be physically distant by more than 6 feet from non-household members.
- If you are unable to wear a face covering due to an exception in accordance with Executive Order #180 you must maintain at least 6 feet distance from all others at all times that are not members of your household.
- Please bring what you need when you enter as there is no re-entry. Picnic areas are outside the main gate so if you plan to picnic, do so either before your visit to the Zoo or after your visit to the Zoo at our Solar Pointe picnic area (adjacent to the North America Parking Lot).
- The Zoo’s pathways are configured into a one-way walking experience through North America and Africa wherever possible. This is to help encourage social distancing while still ensuring every guest can stop by each habitat. You will see directional signs and decals to help you navigate your visit.

Park Updates:
- The following habitats and amenities are temporarily closed during this initial phase.
  - Indoor habitats Streamside, Seabird and Sea Lion Underwater Viewing
  - Indoor dining (outside dining is available)
  - Seasonal attractions closed for the season.
  - Education Smart Carts
  - Keeper talks and animal feeding times
  - Tram service in Africa

Dining and Gifts
- Pre-packaged food options and outdoor seating will be available inside the Zoo. We encourage the use of credit, debit or gift cards for purchases.
- Earth Explorer gift shop at North America Plaza will be open with limited guest entry.

Creature Comforts
- Restrooms are available throughout the Zoo, but for your safety, will close periodically for cleaning and sanitizing.
- Hand sanitizer stations are set up in designated areas along the paths for your convenience.
- Water bottle refill stations available. As a further safety measure, all drinking fountains are closed through the Zoo, but water bottle refill stations are available at Wild Burger Cafe (North America), near the Black Bear habitat (North America), Prairie Outpost (North America) and near the Watani Grassland restrooms (Africa).

Getting Around the Zoo
- We are a walking Zoo and our animals are only visible from the walking paths. If you need assistance returning to the North America exit, transportation will be available (with limited capacity) at Junction Plaza. There is no tram service from Africa or parking lot shuttles at this time.

Only folded strollers that can fit into the seat with you can be accommodated on Zoo transportation at this time.
- If you wish to bring your oversized stroller or wagon you are welcome to but remember, this means you will be walking back as transport cannot accommodate them during this time.
- If you rent a Zoo stroller these can be left at the Junction tram stop at the end of your visit should you choose to take a tram back.