

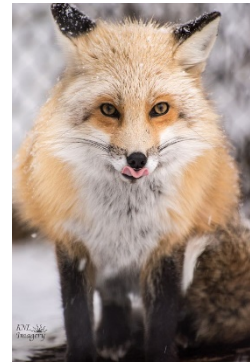


## **Self-Guided Zoo Tour:**

**Follow the numbers on the map; they correspond with educational information below regarding specific animals or other information about our NEW Zoo.**

### **Enjoy your Self-Guided Tour!**

**This is an educational opportunity to enhance your trip at the zoo. It includes information about some of the animals on exhibit and conservation messages that are vital aspects of the NEW Zoo's mission and AZA's accreditation standards. We appreciate your visit!**

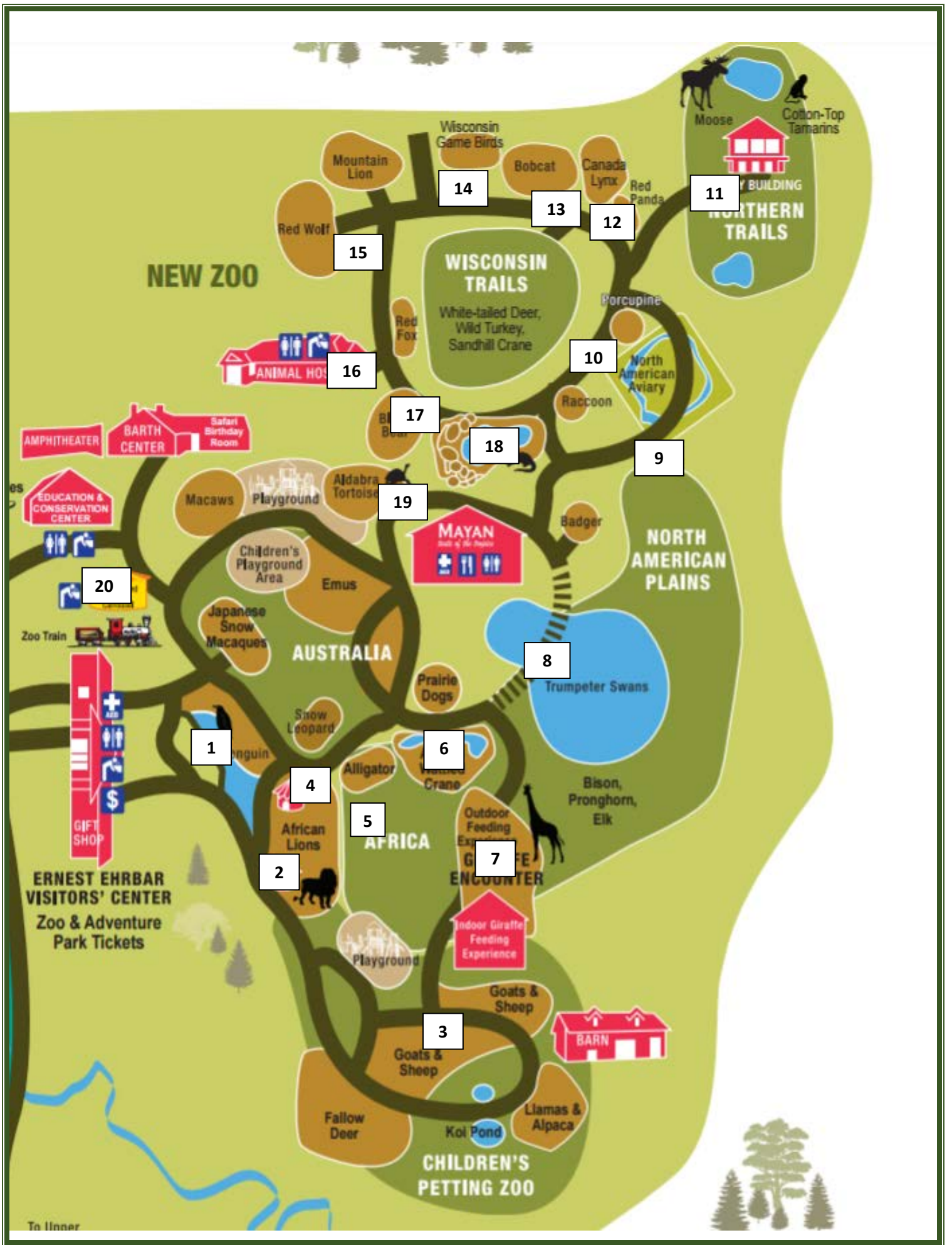


### **What is AZA accreditation?**

**ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS**

**The NEW Zoo & Adventure Park is one of only seven Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoos in the country that doesn't receive local or regional tax support for the zoo's annual operating budget. AZA represents institutions which meet the highest standards in animal care, provide a fun and educational family experience, and dedicate millions of dollars to scientific research, conservation, and education programs.**

*\*Please note that all animal names provided in this document are accurate as of Summer 2017. Animals at the zoo are subject to change at any time.*



**NEW ZOO**

**WISCONSIN TRAILS**

**NORTHERN TRAILS**

**NORTH AMERICAN PLAINS**

**AUSTRALIA**

**AFRICA**

**CHILDREN'S PETTING ZOO**

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**ERNEST EHRBAR VISITORS' CENTER**  
Zoo & Adventure Park Tickets

**INDOOR GIRAFFE FEEDING EXPERIENCE**

**BARN**

**MAYAN**  
Gift of the Mayan

**AMPHITHEATER**  
**BARTH CENTER**  
Safari Birthday Room

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

**EDUCATION & CONSERVATION CENTER**

**RECREATION BUILDING**

## 1. African Penguin



- Endangered species
- Males are banded on the right and females are banded on their left wing
- Hand raised penguins at the NEW Zoo
  - Tweedle—blue and white band on L wing
  - Doodle—yellow band on L wing
- Native to the south-western coast of Africa
- Great color adaptation: Special camouflage called “counter-shading” they are dark on top, so that an animal swimming above them looks down and sees dark, they blend in; they are light on the bottom so a predator looking up at them from underneath will see them blend into the lightness of the sky

## 2. African Lions



- Ajia (female)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest living cats in the world; some males can weight over 550 pounds
- Live for 10 to 14 years in the wild, up to 20 years in captivity
- Lives in savannah, grassland habitat
- As top predator, lions are an important part of the environment; they help keep prey populations in check and healthy, because they often eat the weak, sick, and older animals
- Very social animals; females hunt together
- Considered vulnerable species, meaning they could potentially become endangered if we don't help

## Species Survival Plan (SSP)



- Zoos work to preserve lions by participating in their Species Survival Plan
- By keeping track of a species' genetic history, an SSP can make recommendations to zoos as to which animals are 'best matches' for breeding
- Our lion is a genetically important lion—she actually has “good DNA” of healthy lions. She and her past mate, Shambe, and their offspring have the potential to survive in the wild. That is why we encouraged them to breed, to help bolster the healthy, captive population

## 3. Children's Zoo



- The Children's zoo includes a variety of goats, alpacas, chickens, Flemish rabbits, sheep, a corn snake, and an African leopard tortoise.
- African Leopard Tortoise: Tobin
  - Male, born in 1989
  - In captivity, they can live to be over 100+ years!
  - Found in Southern Africa and has leopard-like spots on its shell
  - His long toenails help with climbing on rocky terrain
  - During warm weather, you may see Tobin exercising with the goats and sheep in the Children's zoo!

## 4. Snow Leopards



- Tami (2001), Buster (2004)
- Endangered: estimated between 3,500 and 7,000 snow leopards exists in the wild
- Tami and Buster are approved by the SSP to breed because of their good, important genes. We hope to have cubs in the future!
- Found in Himalayan Mountains
- Weighs up to 120 pound; tail is 90% of body length!
- Numerous agencies are working to conserve the snow leopard and its threatened mountain ecosystem

## 5. Alligator



- Lucky; born in 2003; came from St. Augustine Alligator Farm in Florida
- In the wild, albino gators would not survive because they cannot camouflage and are also susceptible to skin/tissue damage from sunlight
- Cold-blooded animals: very slow metabolism, meaning they can survive for lengthy periods without food
- **Difference between crocodile and alligator:**
  - Crocodile has a very long, narrow, V-shaped snout, while an alligator's snout is wider and U-shaped

## 6. Wattled Crane



- Harry Birdini (male), Zurini (female)
- Stands 6' tall and weighs 14 pounds
- Occurs in 11 sub-Saharan countries in Africa with more than half of the population in Zambia
- **Vulnerable species** with threats of destruction of habitats, construction of hydroelectric power projects and human and livestock disturbance

## 7. Reticulated Giraffe



- Hodari (male, born 2004)
- Zuri (female, born 2004)
- Tallest of all land animals
- Found in tree-dotted grasslands of Africa
- Ossicones: horn-like growths on top of heads
- Males can weigh between 2400-4300 pounds and can be 18-19 feet tall
- Females can weigh between 1600-2600 pounds and can be 16 feet tall

### Giraffe Feeding Hours: \$1 per serving

November through March:

10:30-12:15 & 1:15-3:00

April through October:

10:30-1:15 & 2:15-5:00

## 8. North American Plains



- Bison, elk, pronghorn
- *What's the difference between buffalo and bison?*
- Buffalo are indigenous to South Asia and Africa while bison are found in North America and parts of Europe.
- Another major difference is the presence of a hump. Bison have one hump at the shoulders while buffalo do not.
- Another difference is that buffalo tend to have large horns, some reaching more than 6 feet, while bison's horns are much shorter and sharper!

## 9. North American Aviary



- Includes bald eagle, variety of ducks, and pelicans in the summertime!
- **Eagles** are at the top of the food chain; there are about 60 different species of eagles across the globe
- Powerful sense of sight: large eyes can take up to 50% of the head and vision is 4-5x better than a human's sight; they can detect prey up to two miles away
- Monogamous: generally, mate for life

## 10. Porcupine / Raccoon



- **N. A. Porcupine:** Penelope
- Second-largest rodent in North America behind the beaver
- A porcupine can have up to 30,000 quills on its body, but it's a myth that they can shoot them if frightened!
- **Raccoons:** Zuke and Zorro
- Nocturnal, active at night
- Highly intelligent and curious animals
- Their hind feet can rotate 180 degrees to help them climb trees and then can run up to 15 mph!

## 11. Northern Trail



- This includes moose, cotton-top tamarins, fish, owls, bullfrog, black-footed ferret, and different bird species!
- **Black-Footed Ferret:** Lydia & Muad-Dib (females)
- Endangered & locally extinct in parts of Canada since 1937
- In 1985, the last known wild population of 18 individuals was taken into captivity and the species has gone from "extinct in the wild" to "globally endangered" with recovery and reintroduction strategies
- NEW Zoo takes "retired" breeding ferrets as these animals have lived long productive lives

## 12. Red Panda



- Qiji (female), born in 2000; Addison (female), born in 2015
- Vulnerable Species
- Endemic to temperate forests of the Himalayas
- Primary threats to Red Pandas: harvest from the wild, habitat degradation, and deforestation
- In wild, they have low birth rates and high death rates and are extirpated (extinct) in certain locations

## 13. Wisconsin Trails



- White-tailed deer, wild turkey, and sandhill crane
- **Sandhill Cranes:**
- Cranes are among the oldest living birds on the planet; a Sandhill Crane fossil found in Florida was estimated to be 2.5 million years old!
- Loud voices: have long windpipes to produce a loud, rolling, trumpeting sound
- Dancing: courting cranes stretch their wings, pump their heads, bow, and leap into the air in a graceful and energetic dance

## 14. North American Big Cats



- Canada lynx, bobcat, and cougar
- **Canada Lynx:** Carson and Lucy
- Carnivores: prey on mice, hare, squirrels and often cover their prey with snow to be eaten later
- **What's the difference between a lynx and a bobcat?**
- Bobcats have shorter tufts on their ears, the tip of their tail is black on top and white underneath and they have shorter legs and smaller feet
- Lynx have long ear tufts, flared facial ruff and a short, bobbed tail with a completely black tip.
- Lynx mostly occur only in northern states along the Canadian border, while bobcats range across the entire Lower 48 states.

## 15. Red Wolves



- Were once found in coastal marshlands throughout Southeastern U.S. all the way to Texas ; now they are located only in a few designated protected areas
- Primarily nocturnal and communicate by scent marking, vocalizations, facial expression and posture
- **Critically Endangered:** Almost hunted to extinction, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rounded up about 20 red wolves to reside at captive breeding facilities. Fewer than 45 red wolves currently live in the wild.

## 16. "Georgia's Kitchen"



- The "K5" Zookeeper at the NEW Zoo typically spends about 3 hours of his/her day with meal prep for the animals
- The diet prep consists of weighing out food items, produce chopping and preparation, and adding essential vitamins and nutrients that some of our animals need
- Check out the last page of this packet on how to become a keeper!

## 17. Black Bear



- Aldo (male), Winnie (female)
- Found from Canada to Northern Mexico
- Extremely adaptable in habitats, but primarily found in forested areas with thick ground vegetation
- American black bear is the smallest of the 3 bear species found in North America
- Short, non-retractable claws excellent for tree-climbing
- Great sense of smell; can smell an animal carcass from 20 miles away!

## 18. River Otter



- Found in streams, lakes, wetlands and coasts in all states and territories of U.S. and Canada
- Built for swimming: waterproof pelt which allows the otter to regulate temperature, streamlined body, short legs, webbed feet, and nostrils that can close when underwater
- Can remain under water for up to 4 minutes in search of food
- Very playful animals: can often be seen playing games and most active at night

## 19. Aldabra Tortoise



- Al (male), Tootie (female)
- Both born before 1981 (over 35 years old!) and can live to be over 100 years old
- Vulnerable species
- Native to Aldabra Atoll of the coast of Africa
- “Keystone Species” essential for grazing on grass so islands do not become a forest; the loss of this species would alter habitats and cause long-lasting changes to the environment, which would impact a variety of other species

## 20. Education & Conservation Center

The Education and Conservation Center is where some of our reptile animals, including our ball pythons, African bullfrog, and blue-tongue skink, live. It also houses our education Classroom and main offices with a commitment to educate our community about the natural world and conservation practices.



Education Department Mission Statement: *The New Zoo Education Department aims to foster awareness understanding, and appreciation of living organisms and natural environments.*

We provide a variety of different programs for community members, both on-site and off-site including:

- Zoo Classes and Guided Zoo Tours
- Outreach Programs (“Zoomobiles”) where we bring the zoo to you!
- Scout Programs
- Overnight “Zoo Snooze” Programs
- Private “Wild Encounter” Programs
- Zoo Camps
- Animal Encounters
- ....and more!

**Fun Fact:** All of the animals that you see in the Education & Conservation Center can be used for programs and classroom events, as well as other animals, like our Southern Three-Banded Armadillo, that live behind the scenes!

Be sure to check us out at: <http://newzoo.org/education>

Thanks for touring the zoo and taking the time to learn more about some of the animals! From all of us to you...have a wild day!

## **Top 10 Questions asked about the NEW Zoo & Adventure Park**

**10. Why do we have zoos instead of saving animals in their native habitats?** Currently, we need both efforts. For example, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the world lost three types of tigers. More importantly, beyond the animals under their immediate care, today's AZA accredited zoos are also involved in over 1,000 conservation programs in nearly 100 countries around the world every year.

**9. Do animals live longer in the wild or outside of the wild?** As a general rule, animals living in accredited zoos live substantially longer. For example, big cats in the wild frequently live only 8 to 12 years, and this is if they survive a 50 to 80 percent mortality rate for the first two years of life. With proper nutrition, safety from severe injury and routine veterinary care, big cats can live into their late teens and mid-twenties in an accredited zoo.

**8. Do the animals bite?** They can! Guests frequently compare their friendly relationship with a domestic animal to a zoo animal. The differences are tremendous. Even a lesser cat, only three to four times the size of a housecat, can kill a small antelope. Thus, a running child or young adult can easily be seen as prey. We do not endorse the ownership of exotic animals as pets.

**7. Where do zoos get their animals?** Obviously at some point, all non-native species were imported. The vast majority of creatures seen in zoos today were born in a zoo. Most accredited zoos are helping to fund projects and send researchers to see how they can protect the wild areas so the animals there will have a place to live in the future. The Wildlife Conservation Society is an excellent example of this. Since the passage of the United States Endangered Species Act in 1973, importation from the wild of endangered species has been highly regulated.

**6. What about inbreeding?** Today's accredited zoos work cooperatively to exchange animals and arrange breeding loans to maintain genetic diversity to ensure healthy populations for generations to come. Thus, zoos keep records on the lineage of their individual animals and arrange with other facilities to introduce unrelated animals into their existing population. Programs like the Species Survival Plan are solely focused on this type of work.

**5. Why do zoos have cages?** Obviously, some form of barrier is required to protect animals from each other and to keep zoo visitors safe. That barrier, however, can take on a variety of forms and are growing more varied as we learn more about the preferences and abilities of animals. Even in the wild, however, animals have barriers by which their movements are naturally restrained. Solitary cats cannot cross into neighboring cat's territory without fear of attack. Primate troops sing territorial songs or engage in showy exhibitions and sometimes physical aggression to establish their territory. The crucial question is not that some type of enclosure or barrier is used, but what activities can the animals engage in within that territory.

**4. Do animals get bored in zoos?** Without the proper programs, they certainly can become bored. In the wild, animals' mental activity is kept focused by either concentrating on acquiring something to eat or avoiding being acquired for a meal by somebody else. Social interactions are also important. Since the stress of threat is alleviated by safe housing and care, additional enrichment programs are used, as well as housing animals in group settings for those that are social.

**3. What kind of enrichment do animals receive?** The work of a properly educated zookeeper goes far beyond the daily cleaning and diet preparation. Part of their care for an animal or group of animals includes regularly developing new activities to keep animals mentally and physically stimulated.

Enrichment includes manufactured toys for the animal to play with (or destroy) as well as interspecies interaction, supplemental foraging activities, among other things that help the animals have opportunity to engage in something fun or thought provoking.

**2. Where does the NEW Zoo get its funding?** Unlike many zoos, the NEW Zoo currently receives no local, state, or federal tax funding for its work with animals. Therefore, it is our zoo guests and members and private donors who make this all possible. By paying admission, purchasing a zoo membership, or making a donation, guests ensure the future of the NEW Zoo.

## **1. How do I become a zookeeper?**

Many of our NEW Zoo zookeepers have been educated in the UW System graduating with biology or zoology degrees. If you're interested in the field, get some experience!

Volunteer at the Zoo. Work with a veterinarian. Before then, doing research at the library or online to learn about the world's animals and ecosystems is a great way to give yourself a head start into the zoo field. You can also learn much more on the website for the [American Association of Zoo Keepers](#).