

FACT SHEET*

- The Minnesota Zoo opened on May 22, 1978 to educate the public about critical environmental issues. Today, the Zoo provides award-winning recreation, education, and conservation programs locally, nationally, and internationally. It is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).
- The Minnesota Zoo is home to more than 2,400 animals and 445 species from around the world. Animals include Amur tigers, Chinese takin, wolverines, Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, sharks and fish, Mexican wolves, sun bears, gibbons, a variety of birds, domestic farm animals, and many other rare and endangered species.
- There were 316 births and hatchings at the Minnesota Zoo in 2007.
- The Zoo, located on 485 acres, is the largest zoo in Minnesota and has an annual attendance of more than one million guests.
- The Minnesota Zoo has 224 employees, 1,100 volunteers, and approximately 130,000 members. In its most recent full fiscal year, it had an annual operating budget of \$17.3 million (\$6.57 million state funded, \$9.56 million privately earned, \$1.17 million contributions).

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS

- The Minnesota Zoo participates in 23 Species Survival Plans (SSPs), a program of the AZA designed to help ensure the survival of selected threatened wildlife species. The SSP species founding its collection are the Amur tiger, Asian small-clawed otter, Asian wild horse, Bali mynah, clouded leopard, cotton-top tamarin, fishing cat, golden lion tamarin, Japanese macaque, keel-billed toucan, Komodo dragon, Malayan sun bear, Malayan tapir, Matschie's tree kangaroo, Mexican gray wolf, pygmy loris, radiated tortoise, red panda, red-ruffed lemur, rhino hornbill, ring-tailed lemur, Visayan warty pig, and white-cheeked gibbon.
- The Minnesota Zoo has coordinated the AZA's Tiger SSP since 1987 and the Cervid Taxon Advisory Group since 1994. It currently manages breeding of three of the six remaining tiger subspecies: Amur, Sumatran and Malayan (formerly Indochinese). The Zoo participates in the South China Tiger Recovery Program, the North American Population Management Plan for Amur leopards, the Ulysses S. Seal Conservation Grant Program, the Trumpeter Swan Restoration Project, and the Bluebird Recovery Project. The Zoo also partners with and donates to the Amur Leopard and Tiger Alliance (ALTA).
- The Minnesota Zoo is continuing its long-term trumpeter swan restoration partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In the spring of 2008, three of the Zoo's swans were released into the wild. To date, 172 Zoo-bred swans have been released.

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EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Over 100,000 students and teachers visit the Minnesota Zoo each year on field trips. The Zoo has developed numerous programs, including the Mentor Program, Zoo Camp, Family Zoo Adventures, Preschool, Scouts, Dolphin Dusk-to-Dawn, and behind-the-scenes tours to interactively educate guests about the Zoo and its animals.

Over 170,000 guests ride the monorail each year for a birds-eye view of the Zoo's Northern Trail.

GUEST INFORMATION**Location**

Highway 77 South (Cedar) and 38 (McAndrews) in Apple Valley, Minnesota

Located only minutes south of the Mall of America.

Hours

The Minnesota Zoo is open every day except Thanksgiving & December 25.

Memorial Weekend – Labor Day	9 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily
September	9 a.m. – 4 p.m. weekdays (to 6 p.m. weekends)
October – April 30	9 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily
May	9 a.m. – 4 p.m. weekdays (to 6 p.m. weekends)

Admission

Adults (age 13-64)	\$14
Seniors (age 65 and older)	\$9
Children (age 3-12)	\$8
Infants (age 2 and younger)	FREE
Monorail	\$4.00
Parking	\$5.00 cars, \$10.00 buses, \$15.00 motor coaches
Year-round memberships available	

Services

Stroller and wheelchair rental, birthday parties, baby changing and nursing areas, locker rentals, bus service, lost and found, food service, First Aid, ATM, and Zoo maps

Contact

Zoo Information Line	952.431.9500 or 800.366.7811
Website	mnzoo.org

**All information in this document is from Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007). Numbers do not reflect insect colonies. Document updated May 12, 2008.*