

MINIMUM STANDARD HEALTH PROTOCOLS



CHECKLIST FOR ALL ZOO, AQUARIUM, NATURAL CAVERN, AND SIMILAR FACILITY VISITORS

The following are the minimum recommended health protocols for all zoo, aquarium, natural cavern, and similar facility visitors in Texas. These minimum health protocols are not a limit on the health protocols that individuals may adopt. Individuals are encouraged to adopt additional protocols consistent with their specific needs and circumstances to help protect the health and safety of all Texans.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. Even if an infected person is only mildly ill, the people they spread it to may become seriously ill or even die, especially if that person is 65 or older with pre-existing health conditions that place them at higher risk. Because of the hidden nature of this threat, everyone should rigorously follow the practices specified in these protocols, all of which facilitate a safe and measured reopening of Texas. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities. We should continue to observe practices that protect everyone, including those who are most vulnerable.

Please note, public health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. Individuals should stay informed and take actions based on common sense and wise judgment that will protect health and support economic revitalization.

Health protocols for zoo, aquarium, and natural cavern visitors:

- Individuals should avoid being in a group larger than 10 individuals. Within these groups, individuals should, to the extent possible, minimize in-person contact with others not in the individual's household. Minimizing in-person contact includes maintaining 6 feet of separation from individuals. When maintaining 6 feet of separation is not feasible, other methods should be utilized to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as wearing a face covering or mask, washing or sanitizing hand frequently, and avoiding sharing utensils or other common objects.
- Self-screen before going into a zoo, aquarium, natural cavern, or similar facility for any of the following, new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19:

<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat
<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste or smell
<input type="checkbox"/> Chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/> Repeated shaking with chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
<input type="checkbox"/> Muscle pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
<input type="checkbox"/> Headache	
- Wash or disinfect hands upon entering a zoo, aquarium, natural cavern, or similar facility and after any interaction with employees, other visitors, items, or after eating.
- Individuals aged 65 or older are at a higher risk of COVID-19. To the extent possible, avoid being within 6 feet of individuals aged 65 and older. Individuals aged 65 and older should stay at home as much as possible.**

MINIMUM STANDARD HEALTH PROTOCOLS



ZOO, AQUARIUM, CAVERN VISITORS: Page 2 of 2

- Consistent with the actions taken by many individuals across the state, consider wearing cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth) when entering a zoo, aquarium, natural cavern, or similar facility, or when within 6 feet of another person who is not a member of the individual's household. If available, individuals should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.
- The benefit of wearing a mask is to remind you not to touch your face, especially if you have been around individuals not members of your group.
- Avoid touching areas that other patrons have touched. Carry and use hand sanitizer regularly inside the zoo, aquarium, or similar facility to disinfect hands, especially before eating.