

# Important Field Trip Tips

Thank you for your payment. The following information will help ensure that your field trip is successful. Please read the Confirmation Invoice on the back side of this page.



**PAYMENT:** If your final count differs from your confirmed number, additional tickets must be purchased the day of your visit. *There will be no refunds.* It is very important that you bring your tickets with you to the Zoo. *Tickets will not be reissued.*



**YOUR ARRIVAL AT THE ZOO:** *Entrance to Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium will not be granted without tickets for your school group.* Please distribute tickets to all chaperones and students before approaching the gate. Enter through the turnstiles or group entry gate as directed by a Zoo representative.



**PARKING:** *Please be advised that there is no bus drop-off for students.* Buses must park in the upper lots. Proceed with your group to the Zoo entrance using sidewalks and crosswalks.



**CHAPERONES:** *All school groups must have a minimum of one adult chaperone for every 5 students.* Be sure all chaperones understand that they must stay with their assigned groups, regardless of age, at all times while on Zoo grounds. This includes the gift shop. Please provide each of your chaperones with a copy of the *Code of Conduct* and *Disruptive Behavior Policy* included in this packet, and a *name tag* that identifies them as a chaperone for your school group.



**STUDENTS:** Be sure all students are wearing a form of identification. For younger students, tags that identify their school group are very helpful. *Be sure all students know who their chaperone is and understand the Zoo's Code of Conduct.* Visit our website to download our new Field Investigation Log sheets to help students have a more focused field trip.



**LOST PERSON:** *All Zoo staff and volunteers are trained to assist in locating a lost person and will be happy to help you in that event.* Zoo staff members wear navy shirts with the zoo logo. Zoo volunteers wear green shirts with the zoo logo. Before your group disperses to explore the zoo, choose a prominent Zoo landmark (such as the Pacific Rim Plaza) as a meeting place in case a group member gets lost.



**MEALS:** You may either pack your own lunches or purchase meals at zoo concession stands. *If you choose to pack your own lunches, please be aware that the Zoo has a limited number of storage lockers available for group lunch storage.* These are available on a first-come, first-served basis. A Zoo staff member will direct you to the storage lockers. The Zoo cannot guarantee a storage locker will be available, so be prepared with alternative arrangements for managing lunches. *Be prepared for an outdoor dining experience.* Unless marked otherwise, you and your group are welcome to eat your lunch on any lawn area. These areas are on a first-come, first-served basis. These areas may or may not be covered or equipped with picnic tables or benches. Please help us keep our exhibit areas open for viewing by not having your group eat at or in close proximity to animal exhibits. *Please remind your group that the animals on Zoo grounds have special diets so we do not allow feeding of the animals.*