CHATTANOOGA ZOO ANNOUNCES RE-OPENING

Chattanooga, TN - The Chattanooga Zoo is excited to announce that it will re-open to the public on Saturday, May 9th. The Zoo is included in Mayor Berke’s newest Executive Order that re-opens trails, parks, and public spaces.

The Zoo has evaluated its operating procedures and made changes to protect the safety of guests, visitors, and animals.

Some of these changes include:
- Tickets must be purchased in advance online.
- When purchasing a ticket, you can choose a morning or afternoon time slot. Tickets are only valid for the date & time slot selected.
- Time slots are limited to a maximum of 350 guests.
- Chattanooga Zoo members will also need to reserve a ticket online - there will be no cost associated with the reservation.
- Some indoor exhibits remain closed including the Cougar Express, upstairs Himalayan Passage, and Gombe Forest Interpretive Center.
- Daily activities such as keeper chats are not currently offered.
- Zoo rides, Nature Play, gift shop, wheelchair and stroller rentals, and Wild Burger restaurant are currently closed.
- The zoo will plot a one-way path through exhibits that guests are expected to follow.
- Guests are encouraged to wear face masks and observe physical distancing at all times.

Dardenelle Long, Chattanooga Zoo President & CEO says, "After 53 long days, we are very happy to re-open the Chattanooga Zoo to the public. Thank you to everyone who has been doing their part to stay safe during this time. The staff and animals will be happy to see you. We hope that you enjoy and have fun, while also following the safety guidelines we’ve set. Together, we will be able to remain open. We are so appreciative of all the support we’ve received from our community - whether you’ve bought or renewed a membership, adopted an animal, or given a donation. We couldn’t do what we do without you."

We welcome the media to come for a tour of the zoo with our new safety protocols on Wednesday, May 8th. If you would like to come, please email us at hhammon@chattzoo.org.

Anyone with questions is encouraged to view the full set of guidelines on the Zoo’s website at www.chattzoo.org or call the Zoo’s mainline at 423-697-1322.

The 14-acre Chattanooga Zoo (historically referred to as the Chattanooga Zoo at Warner Park) is accredited by the national Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), assuring the highest standards of animal care and husbandry. The Zoo is dedicated to its mission of engaging and inspiring all citizens of the community to better understand and preserve wildlife by creating meaningful connections between people and animals. With its intimate, innovative exhibits, wide-ranging education offerings and commitment to conservation, the Chattanooga Zoo fills a unique niche within the community. The Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. For more information, visit www.chattzoo.org.