



Group Volunteers Project Information and Guidelines Horticulture Projects

Meeting Place:

- Please have your group **meet near the elephant statue** near the zoo ticket booth. We will have someone meet you at 8 am, do a briefing of the project, and escort you to the project site.
- We have a group volunteer waiver form that everyone will use to sign in that morning.
- We **may not be able to accommodate late arrivals**, so we ask that your entire group try to be here by 8 am so that we can begin in a timely fashion.

Materials/ What to Wear:

- We will provide all of the materials needed for your group. We recommend bringing work gloves, but we should have some available to use as well.
- We ask that everyone wear **closed toed shoes and clothes they don't mind getting dirty!** Clothing should be non-offensive and appropriate for a family setting.
- Face masks are recommended when in any indoor spaces, but not required.
- We recommend everyone **bring a reusable water bottle**, bug repellent, and sun screen.

Volunteer Project and Zoo Policies:

- You will be helping our horticulture team. They will brief you on the project that morning, but typically it involves weeding, mulching, or light trimming.
 - *In the case of rain or inclement weather, we will contact you 24 hours prior to your project time to reschedule for another date.*
- Taking **pictures and posting to social media are permitted in public areas only**. Volunteers are not permitted to take pictures or post social media updates while behind-the-scenes at the zoo. If you aren't sure, ask your group supervisor!
- Volunteers are asked to remain in public areas at the Zoo and are only permitted to go behind-the-scenes when accompanied by a Zoo employee. Please do not cross zoo fencing, throw anything into exhibits, or stick hands into exhibits. **Failure to comply with Zoo policies and the instructions of Zoo staff will result in volunteers being asked to leave the Zoo.**
- Please be mindful that the Zoo will be open during all or part of your project, and we are a family-oriented destination. Please avoid use of profanity and inappropriate language during your project time.
- Smoking and vaping are not allowed within the Zoo or in behind-the-scenes areas at the Zoo.
- Please check in and out with your group supervisor.

COVID-19 Health Check Policy:

- Please advise your group members to **STAY HOME** if they have had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive individual, or are experiencing any of the following symptoms: fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher), cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, chills or muscle aches.

After the Project:

- Your group is welcome to enjoy the rest of the day at the zoo! This is our thank you for a hard day's work.
- We are also happy to provide a service letter if needed. Please note this may take 2-3 weeks to compile and send.

Thank you for volunteering with us here at the Virginia Zoo!