

## **Buttonwood Zoo “Critter Camp-In” Overnight**

Pack 40 will be camping overnight at **Buttonwood Park Zoo in New Bedford, MA** for a special **Critter Camp-In** experience! This overnight program begins on **Saturday, March 7th at 6:00 PM** and concludes the following morning at **9:00 AM**.

Participants will enjoy a full evening and morning of fun and learning, including:

- Pizza dinner and dessert
- Two animal encounters (one in the evening and one in the morning)
- A guided nighttime zoo tour
- Popcorn snack and a movie
- A light breakfast
- A guided morning zoo tour

Each participant will also receive a **commemorative BPZOO patch** and a **Buttonwood Park Zoo t-shirt**.

During the **nighttime tour**, zoo educators will share fun facts and trivia about the animals, explain crepuscular and nocturnal behaviors, and lead engaging observational and sensory games to enhance the after-dark zoo experience. During the **morning tour**, educators will guide participants to meet the diurnal animals that were sleeping during the evening tour and coordinate with animal care staff to provide a closer look and deeper learning opportunity with one of the zoo's animals.

### **Cost & Payment**

- **Cost: \$80 per participant - both adults and children must pay the \$80 fee.** Each family must have at least two participants (one child and one adult).
- **Registration and payment of \$80 per participant is due February 13th.**
- **Spots are first-come, first-served** and are not guaranteed until payment is received.
- **Payment is non-refundable**; however, if your plans change after payment is made, we will make a good-faith effort to find another family to take your spot. If a replacement is found, we will refund your payment.

### **Required Forms**

- **Every participant must complete the Buttonwood Park Zoo After-Hours Release Form.** Link Here: [Mandatory Release Form](#)
- **Completed forms must be submitted by February 13.**
- Any participant without a completed form by this deadline **will not be able to attend**.

### **Chaperones & Supervision**

- **At least one parent or legal guardian must attend for each family unit.**
- Parents/guardians are responsible for **directly supervising their own child(ren)** at all times during the program.

- Only current Pack 40 Cub Scouts, their siblings (ages 6 and up), and parents/legal guardians can attend.
- Parents/guardians are expected to **help maintain appropriate behavior and safety**, allowing zoo staff to focus on leading activities and educational programming.

#### Meals & Food Rules

- **Dinner is provided:** cheese pizza, water, lemonade, and ice cream.
- **Evening snack:** popcorn during the movie.
- **Breakfast:** cereal, muffins, fruit, milk, juice, water, and coffee for adults.
- **Outside food is not permitted**, unless needed for **medical, cultural, or religious reasons** and approved in advance.
- Allergies must be clearly listed on the release form.

#### Overnight Camp-In Rules

- Participants must be **at least 6 years old**.
- Sleeping takes place in **climate-controlled classrooms** with carpeted floors.
- **No showers are available**.
- The building is **locked overnight**; participants may not leave the building on their own.
- Zoo staff sleep on site, and a **night watchman is present on zoo grounds overnight**.
- Electrical outlets are available in the classrooms.

#### Weather & Clothing

- The program runs **rain or shine**.
- Participants should wear **weather-appropriate clothing and footwear** for outdoor activities.

#### Prohibited Items

- **No electronics** (cell phones, tablets, gaming devices).
- **No pets**.
- **No smoking, vaping, or alcohol**.

#### Allergy Notice

- Zoo facilities **are not peanut-, tree nut-, or latex-free**.
- While staff work to reduce risk, **allergen exposure cannot be guaranteed**.
- Families with serious allergies should contact the After-Hours Coordinator in advance.