

**Share this information with all of your group's chaperones for the upcoming Bunking with the Butterflies overnight.**

**What are the start and end times for the overnight?**

Overnight programming begins at 6 p.m. on Friday and ends at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Check-in for the overnight is at 6 p.m. Participants will not be admitted to the Museum prior to 5:45 p.m. Parents can pick up overnight guests between 8:30 and 9 a.m. so that Museum staff may prepare for general admission visitors.

**Where is the Nature Museum located?**

The Museum is located on the northwest corner of Fullerton and Cannon Drive. Cannon Drive is the first street west of Lake Shore Drive at the Fullerton Exit. You may *temporarily* unload your car in the circle drive located at the main entrance of the Museum. In the morning, you may again use this circle drive for loading. **PLEASE BE AWARE**, this drive also serves as a CTA bus stop; do not leave your car unattended in the circle drive.

**Where can I park?**

Free street parking is available on Cannon Drive. Please read signs for time-specific parking restrictions. Please be aware that the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum is not responsible for any property loss or damage that may occur. We recommend removing all items from your car once you have parked.

**What is the check-in procedure?**

- Please enter the Museum at the Main Entrance off Cannon Drive, no earlier than 5:45 p.m.
- Upon arrival, your group members will need to turn in their Participant Waiver and Release Form; no one will be allowed to stay without a signed form.
- Your group will then be given an itinerary with a program outline and information about your scheduled snack and breakfast times and sleeping area.
- Additionally, Education staff will direct you to the appropriate storage location for your belongings.

**What will my group do during the overnight?**

It will be a memorable and fun-filled evening! Your group will rotate through a variety of hands-on science activities, games, and experiences throughout the entire Museum. Program activities are based on the Museum's mission and exhibitions. Some activities have limited times that will be noted on your program schedule. Your group will also have time to explore the Museum's exhibitions, along with an assigned evening snack time and location. The following morning, your group will rise and have a scheduled time for continental breakfast and a special chance to visit our gift shop.

**Who will be in the Museum during the Overnight hours?**

Registered, participating groups and families, overnight program staff, and the nighttime Museum security staff will be on-site during the overnight. Museum security staff will make regular rounds throughout the Museum all night.

**When is "Bed Time" and "Lights Out"?**

Groups may begin preparing for bed at 10 p.m. Please do not set up your sleeping gear before this time, as some sleeping areas will also be program areas during in the evening. At 11 p.m., overhead lights in sleeping areas will be turned off by Museum staff. Groups are still free to use flashlights to move about or read in their sleeping area. "Quiet Time" in the sleeping areas also begins at 11 p.m. All exhibit areas will be turned off at 11 p.m.

**What do I need to bring with me?**

- Bring whatever you need to sleep on – camping pads/mats, air mattresses, a sleeping bag, pillows, blankets, etc. (we recommend bringing air mattresses or camping pads/mats as not all sleeping areas are carpeted, and those that are carpeted are not padded). If you are bringing an air mattress, the Museum has outlets for electric air pumps in all sleeping areas.
- All participants must wear a shirt, pants, and shoes at all times. (Shoes may obviously be taken off while sleeping, but should be put back on to travel to the restroom or any other location.)
- Warm clothes for the evening hours (the Museum may cool off in the evening)
- Flashlights
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, hair brush, hand towel, etc.)
- Money (If you wish to shop in our gift shop, it will be open in the morning. All overnight participants will receive a 10% discount on all purchases!)
- Camera or digital device to capture the memories

The Museum cannot provide locked storage for your group, so please make sure to keep all money and other valuables with you at all times. Additionally, the Museum is not liable for any items damaged, lost or stolen during the event.

**What about food during the Overnight?**

We ask that you and your group eat dinner before you arrive at the Museum for our overnight program. We will provide a light snack during the evening along with a continental breakfast in the morning. The Museum will provide gluten-free, dairy-free, and nut-free options for snack and breakfast; however, if you have any additional dietary restrictions or special needs you may bring your own snacks. Please dispose of all of your garbage in the appropriate bins in the designated areas. Food is allowed **ONLY** in the School Group Lunch Room and North Gallery. No food is permitted in any other area of the Museum. No alcohol is permitted at this event. Please do not chew gum in the Museum.

**Will the Nature Museum Store be open during the Overnight?**

**Yes.** The Museum Store will be open in the morning, from 8 to 9 a.m. All Bunking with the Butterflies participants will receive a 10% discount on all purchases in the store. The discount is not valid with any other offers.

**Where will we sleep?**

Groups and families will sleep together in pre-assigned locations in the Museum. Due to USDA regulations no one is allowed to sleep in the *Judy Istock Butterfly Haven*. Please do not change your sleeping location on your own. Not all sleeping areas are carpeted and if carpeted, they are not padded. We recommend bringing air mattresses and or camping pads/mats for your sleeping comfort. Our facility staff will keep the thermostat elevated during sleeping hours; however, the temperature may naturally drop overnight. Be aware that emergency exit signage and **safety lights will remain on throughout the night** and cannot be turned off by Museum staff.

**Can I change my group's sleeping location?**

Please do not change your group's sleeping area. If you sleep in an area other than your pre-assigned location, you may be asked to move. If you have a question or concern about your pre-assigned sleeping location, please inform a Museum staff member.

**How dark does the Museum become after Lights Out?**

No sleeping area will become completely dark after Lights Out, as exit signs and safety lights remain lit throughout the night. The staff is not able to adjust lighting levels in the sleep areas.

**How quiet does the Museum become after Lights Out?**

Not all sleeping areas will be completely silent after Lights Out. Please anticipate some noises throughout the evening. If you have trouble sleeping with faint noises we suggest bringing ear plugs or similar noise blockers.

**What restroom facilities are available at the Museum?**

Restrooms are located throughout the Museum and are available for general use during program times. Each sleeping area will share one men's and one women's restroom. The men's and women's restrooms have multiple sinks and private toilets. Some sleeping areas will also have access to a family restroom, which contains one sink and one toilet. All restrooms are handicap accessible. Please accompany children to the restrooms at all times, even during the sleeping hours of 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. There are no shower facilities in the Museum.

**Are the exhibits and programs handicapped accessible?**

The Museum is fully handicapped accessible and ADA compliant. Please contact us if your group has any further special needs that should be taken into account when assigning sleeping areas or other overnight programming.

**What if I'm a smoker?**

The Nature Museum is a smoke-free facility. Adults who want to take cigarette breaks may exit/re-enter the building through the main entrance on Level 1, until 11 p.m. Please notify the Security Guard at the Information Desk in the Lobby before you exit. Please do not exit the building from any other doors. All doors will be locked during the sleeping hours of 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. and no one will be permitted to exit/enter the building during that time, except for an emergency. Please do not leave your children alone in the Museum; they must be accompanied by an adult chaperone at all times.

**What if I need to go to my car during the Overnight?**

Please see the uniformed security guard located at the Front Desk in the Lobby, who can let you in and out of the building.

**What if I have to cancel my registration?**

If you have to cancel, you must email [cancel@naturemuseum.org](mailto:cancel@naturemuseum.org). Cancellations made more than 30 days prior receive a 90% refund. Cancellations made 15-30 days receive a 50% refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations made 0-14 days before the overnight. All refunds are subject to a \$25 administrative processing fee.

**What if I need to add people to my registration?**

Both pre-registration and pre-payment are required for overnights. Up to two weeks prior to the event, as long as space is available, the Museum will accept additional registrants. No additional individuals may come to the event that evening unless they are already registered and payment in full has been received. No registrations or payments will be accepted the evening of the event. We will add names to a waiting list should the overnight sell out. If members of your party are on the wait list, we will notify you by telephone if space becomes available. No money is required to place names on the waiting list.

Any additional questions can be directed to [overnights@naturemuseum.org](mailto:overnights@naturemuseum.org).