



Minnesota Zoo and the Legacy Amendment

Minnesota House Legacy Committee 1/23/19
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Historical Arts and Cultural Heritage Appropriations

- Laws 2017, Chapter 91, Article 4, Sec. 2, sub. 7
- “For programs and development of the Minnesota Zoological Garden and to provide access and education related to programs on the cultural heritage of Minnesota.”
- \$3,500,000/biennium since 2011 session



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Minnesota's Farming Heritage

FY 2018: \$92,085





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Conservation Education

FY 2018: \$677,621







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WELCOME TO
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CROSSING

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Join our
team of
researchers
as they
journey to
the Outback
to preserve
native
Australian
wildlife.

MAINTAINING
AUSTRALIAN
RESEARCH
ARE ESSENTIAL
PARTS OF
MANAGEMENT

One of the
greatest
threats to
Australia's
wildlife is the
introduction
of non-native
plants and
animals, or
introduced
species.

G'day ma
Most of the plants
and animals in
Australia are
found nowhere
else on Earth.





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WHO'S
DOWN
UNDER?

- 1. **Wombats**
Wombats are marsupials that live in burrows. They are the only marsupial that hibernates.
- 2. **Eastern Grey Kangaroos**
Kangaroos are marsupials that live in burrows. They are the only marsupial that hibernates.
- 3. **Rockwallaby**
Rockwallabies are marsupials that live in burrows. They are the only marsupial that hibernates.
- 4. **Eastern Grey Kangaroos**
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Summer temperatures in parts of Australia can soar to over 115 degrees Fahrenheit during the day. To cope with the oppressive heat, some animals have adapted a burrowing lifestyle and retreat underground during the heat of the day, emerging only when it is cooler at night or early in the morning.

Social Bugs
There are about 100 species of termites. They are social insects that live in colonies. They are known for their ability to build large mounds of earth. They are also known for their ability to digest wood. They are the only insects that can digest wood.

Eight-legged Wonders
Millipedes are invertebrates that have eight pairs of legs. They are known for their ability to curl into a ball. They are also known for their ability to live in burrows. They are the only invertebrates that can live in burrows.

Reptile Retreats
Reptiles are cold-blooded animals that live in burrows. They are known for their ability to hibernate. They are also known for their ability to live in burrows. They are the only cold-blooded animals that can live in burrows.

It's not the Heat, it's the Humidity
Turtles are reptiles that live in burrows. They are known for their ability to hibernate. They are also known for their ability to live in burrows. They are the only reptiles that can live in burrows.



Mammals Underground

What's in your Pocket?
Mammals may burrow to have offspring, hibernate, find food or avoid inhospitable temperatures. Burrowing mammals often have powerful front legs and strong claws for digging. There are roughly 23 living species of burrow-digging mammals in Australia, and there's even a town where humans "burrow."

Beneficial Burrowing
Burrowing mammals help to aerate the soil and improve water drainage. They also help to break down organic matter and return nutrients to the soil. This is why they are considered beneficial to the environment.

An Underground Town
The town of Murrumbidgee in Australia is known for its underground tunnels. The tunnels were built by burrowing mammals and are now used by humans. This is a unique example of how humans have adapted to the environment.





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Northern Trail Raingarden at Work

Stormwater is the rainfall, or snowmelt, that flows over the ground. When it rains, or snow melts, stormwater can pick up pollutants such as sediment, fertilizers, pesticides, oil and other chemicals. This raingarden captures that stormwater and prevents it from carrying pollutants to nearby lakes and streams.

Stormwater flows from hard surfaces such as streets, rooftops and patios, carrying pollutants like sediment, oil and chemicals.

Stormwater flows from yards carrying pollutants like pet waste, grass clippings, fertilizer and chemicals.

A raingarden is a bowl-shaped garden with deep-rooted native plants or a mixture of native and beneficial non-native plants. It is designed so that water soaks into the ground within 48 hours after it rains.

Soil in the raingarden filters pollutants from stormwater. Plants use the water and nutrients carried to the raingarden. Microorganisms in the soil break down the pollutants. The resulting clean water flows through the garden to recharge underground water sources.



Zoo In Action

This is one of several stormwater improvement sites at the Minnesota Zoo. Join us in helping to keep our wetlands, lakes and streams healthy.





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Illegal Wildlife Trade: Predators As Prey

The illegal wildlife trade is estimated to be worth over 100 billion US dollars. While some people poach as a means to escape extreme poverty, others do it to fund terrorist activities and others to profit from the sale of exotic animals and plants funds criminal and terrorist activities and threatens to undo decades of conservation efforts.

Big Business

Some of the biggest markets for endangered animals include the business trade for ornamental plants and aquariums, and traditional medicine made from animal body parts. Tigers and rhinos are particularly at risk, and both species are being poached in some countries, and as a result, are poached for traditional use.

Have Road will Travel

Hidden from ordinary animals in dense woods, and in places where there are no roads, the tiger trade has been thriving. Logging, mining, and agriculture have pushed tiger ranges to isolated areas where road travel is expensive. Logging roads to Asian tiger habitats allow for easier access to tiger habitats, and other animal resources that are more plentiful in mountainous areas.

Not a Status Symbol

Law enforcement agencies are working to help protect and maintain ornamental plant products. However, the use of the tiger and rhino products are desirable for their bones and skin. Logging roads have been particularly problematic, and are a major source of tiger habitat loss. The tiger trade is a big business, and is a major source of income for many people in the region.

Punishment to Fit the Crime

Many countries are stepping up their anti-poaching efforts. Law enforcement has been stepping up their efforts to protect and maintain ornamental plant products. However, the use of the tiger and rhino products are desirable for their bones and skin. Logging roads have been particularly problematic, and are a major source of tiger habitat loss. The tiger trade is a big business, and is a major source of income for many people in the region.



Our Choice

You can help in many ways: Do not purchase animal parts or trinkets in the U.S. or overseas. As wildlife laws are updated, contact your legislators and let them know that this issue is important to you.



Black Bear Exhibit supported in part by a grant from



CLEAN
WATER
LAND &
LEGACY
AMENDMENT



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Minnesota's Natural Heritage

Celebrating Minnesota's Natural History
through Stewardship and Education

FY 2018: \$303,174





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Prairie
Butterfly
Conservation
Rearing
Facility







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Access and Outreach

FY 2018: \$274,230





FREE TO EXPLORE

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE MINNESOTA ZOO ADMISSION?

Come in and discover **WHERE AMAZING LIVES. EVERY DAY.** All it takes is a curiosity and willingness to explore. We are committed to serving ALL Minnesotans and ensuring that economic circumstances are not obstacles to experiencing everything that the Minnesota Zoo has to offer.

FREE TO EXPLORE PROVIDES FREE DAYTIME ADMISSION FOR A QUALIFYING GUEST AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Parking and fees for any special programs, events, or exhibits are not included. EBT cards are not accepted as payment for parking or fees at the Minnesota Zoo.

TO QUALIFY FOR FREE TO EXPLORE, YOU MUST BE ENROLLED IN ONE OF THE PROGRAMS LISTED BELOW. Simply show the approved documentation along with photo identification and proof of Minnesota residency.

PROGRAM

TANF
MFIP
SNAP
MFAP
General Assistance
MA or MinnesotaCare
WIC
Head Start

APPROVED DOCUMENTATION

MN EBT Card
MHCP Card
WIC Card or WIC Folder
Acceptance Letter

For more information, visit mnzoo.org/freetoexplore
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