



Belle Isle Conservancy Tour Program Plan Your Visit!

Plan Ahead

- Request at least 30 days in advance. Time slots fill up quickly especially in the Spring. Consider a visit in the Fall when time slots are more available.
- Secure your bus transportation as soon as your tour date has been confirmed.

Teacher Pre-Visit

- Make the most of your time on Belle Isle by visiting the venue before your scheduled tour to plan your student experience.
- If your students will complete a self-guided activity, clipboards and pens will be provided upon request.

Preparing Students and Chaperones

- Please review the Aquarium and Conservatory Guidelines with your students and chaperones.
- Review the learning objectives/purpose of your visit.
- Before your visit, divide your students into small groups and assign a chaperone to each (10 to 1 ratio) for self-guided groups. For docent led tours, divide your students into group two groups (aquarium) and three groups (conservatory) and assign chaperones to each.

Lunch Arrangements

- We do not offer any indoor lunch space. Groups may eat outside on the park grounds, weather permitting.
- To reserve a picnic shelter, please contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources online at www.midnrreservations.com or call the reservation desk at 1.800.44.PARKS.

Visiting More Than One Venue on Belle Isle

- We know that Belle Isle has a lot to offer, but we hope you focus on one venue per visit to make the most of your field trip experience.
- If you must schedule a multi-stop, visit please be advised groups larger than 40 cannot be accommodated in the Aquarium or the Conservatory at one time. Arrangements with the Belle Isle Nature Center and the Dossin Great Lakes Museum must be made separately with their managing organizations.

Michigan Recreation Passport

- The Recreation Passport is required for vehicle entry to all 103 Michigan state parks, including Belle Isle. A Recreation Passport is NOT required for visitors accessing the park by foot, bike, or public transit. For details, visit www.michigan.gov/recreationpassport. For questions, please contact the DNR by email at DNR-recreationpassport@michigan.gov. Or by phone at 517-284-7275.

AQUARIUM AND CONSERVATORY GUIDELINES

The wonderful plants and animals you see at the Belle Isle Aquarium and Conservatory are a living collection. Please help preserve Belle Isle's serene atmosphere by discussing proper behavior with students before visiting Belle Isle.

- Please leave all wildlife and natural materials alone.
- Please refrain from climbing on trees and shrubs or picking fruits and vegetables.
- Please refrain from tapping or banging on the glass tanks.
- Remain with your volunteer guide and chaperone at all times
- Remain on designated paths at all times.
- Please speak quietly while inside buildings.
- Active sports and games are prohibited; all play equipment should remain on the bus.
- No food or drink is allowed inside the aquarium or conservatory.
- Groups with insufficient numbers of chaperones and/or demonstrating inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of a problem or emergency, please inform the nearest Aquarium or Conservatory Volunteer or staff. If you need immediate assistance please call the Michigan State Police at 313-237-2450, instead of 911 (Michigan State Police has a station on the Island).