



**THE PEGGY NOTEBAERT
NATURE MUSEUM**

The Museum of the Chicago Academy of Sciences

Bunking with the Butterflies Overnights

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS... page 1 of 4

Please share this information with your group's chaperones.

What are the start and end times for the overnight?

Check-in for the overnight will begin at 6 p.m. Participants will not be admitted to the Museum prior to 6 p.m. Overnight activities will end at 9 a.m. the next day so that Museum staff may prepare for general admission visitors.

Where is the Notebaert 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. (See the attached sheet for a map and directions.) You may 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. Do not leave your car unattended. **PLEASE BE AWARE**, this drive also serves as a CTA bus stop for the #77 Belmont route.

Where can I park?

Please park in the Diversey Harbor Lot on Cannon Drive directly east of the Museum's main entrance. There is no fee to use this lot when parking for an Overnight program at the Nature Museum. However all cars parked in the Diversey Harbor Lot for the Overnight must display an Overnight Parking Pass dated for that specific overnight in their windshield, or you can be subject to ticketing and/or towing. Please make additional copies of the pass provided for other drivers in your group. Additional passes can also be printed from the Overnights page of the Museum's website, naturemuseum.org. Please be aware that the parking lot is unattended and the Notebaert Nature Museum is not responsible for any property loss or damage that may occur.

What is the check-in procedure?

- Please enter the Museum at the Main Entrance off Cannon Drive, no earlier than 6 p.m. The Museum will not be open for check-in before this time.
- Upon arrival, your group members will need to turn in their Participant Agreement and Release Form; no one will be allowed to stay without a signed form.
- Your group will then be given a packet with your sleeping location and bedtime/morning clean-up restroom assignments; a program outlining the evening's activities; information about your assigned breakfast time and location.
- Additionally, staff will direct you to the appropriate storage location for your belongings.

What will my group do during the overnight?

It will be a fun packed evening! Starting at 7 p.m. your group will rotate through a variety of hands-on science activities, games, shows and experiments located throughout the entire Museum. All program activities are based on the Museum's permanent and temporary 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 at 7 a.m. for a continental breakfast and visit the *Judy Istock Butterfly Haven* to enjoy a First Flight Butterfly Release.

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

2430 North Cannon Drive, Chicago IL 60614

t 773-755-5100 f 773-755-5197

naturemuseum.org

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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. A "Late Night Activity Room" will open at 10:30 p.m. where games and activities for small groups will be provided. The Museum's one adult chaperone to five children ratio applies throughout the evening including in the Late Night Activity Room. All exhibit areas will be turned off by 12 a.m.

What do I need to bring with me?

- Whatever you need to sleep on – air mattresses, camping pads/mats, 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).
- All participants must wear a shirt, pants, and shoes at all times. Please do not bring pajamas as the Museum has limited restroom space for changing (we recommend wearing t-shirts, shorts, sweat pants and/or sweat pants).
- Warm clothes for the evening hours (the Museum can 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 and film
- Personal music players with headphones are permitted; please play them at a low volume.

The Museum cannot provide locked storage for your group, 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.

Will the Nature Museum Store be open during the Overnight?

Yes. The Museum Store will be open in the morning, from 7 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 good with any other offers.

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. Additionally, the Museum has vending machines located in our School Group Lunch Room. The Museum cannot accommodate any dietary restrictions or special needs; however, you may bring your own snacks. All food is limited to the designated areas of the Museum and only during assigned snack times or when the "Late Night Activity Room" is open. Please dispose of all your garbage in the appropriate bins in the designated areas, marked – trash, recycling, and compost. No food is permitted in any other areas of the Museum. No alcohol is permitted at this event. Please do not chew gum in the Museum.

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Please share this information with your group's chaperones.

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 that 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 will 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 remain lit throughout the night. The staff cannot adjust lighting levels in the sleep areas. If you have trouble sleeping with some light in your area we suggest bringing a sleeping mask.

What restroom facilities does the Museum provide?

Restrooms are located throughout the Museum and are available for general use during program times. During the "Bedtime Preparation" hour and the morning clean-up times, we request that you and your group use your assigned restrooms. 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 midnight 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 needing to take cigarette breaks may exit/re-enter the building through the main entrance on Level 1, until midnight. 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 midnight to 6 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.

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

The front doors to the Museum will remain unlocked until midnight. The doors will be locked from midnight until 6 a.m. In the event of an emergency between midnight and 6 a.m. please see the uniformed security guard located at the Front Desk in the Lobby, who can let you in and out of the building. After 6 a.m., the doors will be unlocked.

Who will be in the Museum during the Overnight hours?

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

What if I have to cancel my registration?

Cancellations and requests for refunds may be done via telephone by calling the Education Registration Office at 773-755-5111, ext. 6, at least four weeks prior to your overnight date. Refunds may be subject to a \$25 processing fee. Refunds will not be considered after the four-week deadline.

What if I need to add people to my registration?

Prior to the event, as long as space is available, the Museum will accept additional registrants. Payment must be received in full prior to the date of the event. No additional individuals may come to the event that evening unless they are already registered and payment in full has been received. No 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.