

# Reopening the Smithsonian: Welcome Back to the Zoo and Udvar-Hazy Center

Secretary Lonnie Bunch: Hello, I'm Lonnie Bunch, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. And as we begin our phased reopening, here at the National Zoo and the National Air and Space Museum - Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, in Chantilly, Virginia, your safety is a priority for us. So, we're implementing several safeguards. In accordance with the latest health recommendations, we're requiring our employees and all visitors aged six and over to wear face coverings. We also strongly recommend face coverings for children between the ages of two and six. We've installed numerous hand-sanitizing stations throughout our locations. We began rigorous cleaning protocols to ensure that services are sanitized frequently and we've required free timed passes for entry, which will limit the number of visitors and make it easier for people to maintain a safe distance. Recommended by public health officials, these steps will provide the safest possible environment. If you feel more comfortable staying home, our Smithsonian Cares website has an abundance of inspirational, educational, online resources. I'm proud that the Smithsonian has helped the nation grapple with the challenges it's faced over the last few months. Reopening the Smithsonian will also take a collective effort on all of our parts. If you're sick, please stay home. If you're able to visit, please think of others and cover your face, wash your hands, and stay six feet apart. We're all in this together. And if we make caring for each other a priority, we can do this. Thank you for understanding and welcome back to the Smithsonian.