



COSLEY ZOO

2021 Annual Report



Message from the Zoo Director	3
Animal Welfare	5
Conservation	9
Education	15
People	19
Finance	27
Cosley Foundation	31
Marketing	33

MISSION

To create connections between people and animals that will inspire lifelong conservation of the natural world



VISION

Empowering change through conservation action and engagement



Message from the Zoo Director

Despite its small size, Cosley Zoo takes part in many diverse endeavors and boasts numerous accomplishments each year. While we have much more to pursue and achieve in the future, I could not be more proud of what we do each and every day.

As a seasoned zoo professional, I must admit that one of the things I am proudest of is the fact that Cosley Zoo is and continues to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Cosley Zoo has now been accredited for 21 consecutive years! This is a distinction reserved for those institutions that are committed to continuous and dedicated pursuit of professional excellence. Receiving accreditation means that Cosley Zoo was thoroughly examined by some of the nation's leading experts and was found to meet or exceed the world's most exacting standards in all areas of our operation.

While seeking to attain accreditation from AZA is a complex and arduous process, it is one that staff takes great pride in pursuing, and even greater pride in achieving. It is tangible proof that what we do meets the highest industry standards. It means that we are taking the best possible care of our animals, providing educational and safe experiences for our guests and making significant contributions to conservation.

It is because of the commitment and hard work by staff and supporters that Cosley Zoo can achieve the highest level of professional achievement. Each day I am in awe of the sheer dedication I witness in our staff and the unfettered belief that our supporters have in the work that we do.

AZA accreditation is a tremendous source of pride for me, and I hope for you as well, knowing that our little zoo measures up to the highest standards in the world, making Cosley Zoo one of the premier small zoos in the country.

Please share in our accomplishments (including AZA accreditation!) by reviewing Cosley Zoo's 2021 annual report.



Susan L. Wahlgren
Cosley Zoo Director





Animal Welfare our primary focus

Cosley Zoo's animal care program is centered around animal welfare. Our proactive program for managing welfare ensures that not only are the animals receiving proper nutrition, living in clean environments, and seeing veterinarians regularly, but also that they have mental stimulation, choice and control in their environments, and opportunities to participate in species-specific behavior. Regular welfare assessments are conducted for each animal and habitat at the zoo, giving us a scientific, objective way to analyze each animal's welfare and ensure that we are providing it with an excellent life experience. Our dedication to animal welfare is one of the factors which has led to Cosley Zoo's accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).



AZA Accreditation

AZA accreditation is the gold standard in the field of animal care and welfare, reflecting a facility's dedication to conservation, education programming, visitor services, and most importantly, animal welfare. The process of applying for accreditation is rigorous, beginning with a lengthy written application and concluding with a multi-day onsite inspection, in which every aspect of zoo operations is scrutinized. Accreditation lasts for five years, after which a facility must go through the entire application process again to maintain accreditation. This ensures that zoos and aquariums continue to keep abreast with the

newest advances in the field and always meet or exceed best practices, which are constantly evolving. This prestigious accreditation is earned by fewer than 10% of licensed United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) exhibitors.

In early 2020, the Cosley Zoo team submitted the accreditation application packet, and an onsite inspection was scheduled for later that year. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, inspectors were unable to visit in person, and Cosley Zoo (along with all other accredited facilities) received a one-year accreditation extension.

Cosley Zoo's inspection finally occurred in June 2021. The inspectors' report was submitted to the Accreditation Commission, and in November the commission granted accreditation to Cosley Zoo for another five-year cycle. This was the zoo's fifth accreditation, representing 21 consecutive years accredited. This accreditation represents a genuine commitment to the animals in the zoo's care and happened thanks to the considerable efforts of zoo staff, volunteers, and supporters. It also represents to zoo visitors that their choice to come to Cosley Zoo is one that supports an organization which has been shown to meet the very highest animal welfare standards in the world.

Enrichment partnership

Environmental enrichment is a crucial component of animal welfare, allowing animals choice and control in their environment and ensuring they have opportunities to exhibit behaviors appropriate for their species, such as climbing, digging, or foraging. Some enrichment items can be created onsite at Cosley Zoo, but many of the more complex enrichment items must be purchased. In late 2020, the Cosley Zoo team entered a partnership with Zoo Enrichment Lab, a small business in need of a facility where they could

test their enrichment items with live animals. In exchange for allowing the Zoo Enrichment Lab staff to test their products with us, Cosley Zoo has received several hundred dollars of free products for our animals to use, including a puzzle feeder for the pigs, hammock swing for the raccoons, and mirror for the deer.



Cosley Zoo's American Guinea hogs manipulate their Jungle Jax puzzle feeder, utilizing their motor skills to cause the food to fall out.

Whole life care

At Cosley Zoo, our animal welfare program lasts for an animal's entire life, from its arrival at Cosley Zoo until the time we say goodbye. As an animal ages or experiences health problems, zookeepers perform frequent welfare assessments to help them evaluate the animal's level of comfort and quality of life. These assessments are performed regularly for every animal at the zoo but take place even more frequently for animals nearing the ends of their lives.

Such was the case with bobcat Val in late 2021. Val and his brother Sal arrived at Cosley Zoo in 2012, the original residents of the zoo's brand-new bobcat habitat. The cats were beloved by zoo staff and visitors alike. In 2019, Sal passed away due to kidney disease and in late 2021, Val began experiencing complications from the same disease, which is common in older cats. Cosley Zoo's welfare assessment process, which provides us with a scientific basis for assessing the animals' life experience, helped us monitor

Val's quality of life throughout his illness. When the symptoms became more than medicine could manage, zoo staff, upon consultation with our veterinary team, chose to say goodbye to Val in a peaceful and dignified way using humane euthanasia.

Val is greatly missed at Cosley Zoo; however, we take comfort in knowing that because of our excellent welfare program and frequent assessments, we were able to make him as comfortable as possible at the end of his time with us. Val's legacy will live on at Cosley Zoo, and we are currently investigating options for a new animal or animals. They will have big footprints to fill.



Due to Cosley Zoo's excellent welfare program, bobcat Val thrived in his later years and was able to end his time at Cosley Zoo in a peaceful and dignified way.

Cosley Zoo Animals



AMPHIBIANS

SPECIES | 2
INDIVIDUALS | 13



INVERTEBRATES

SPECIES | 6
INDIVIDUALS | 3
GROUPS | 3*



BIRDS

SPECIES | 22
INDIVIDUALS | 66



MAMMALS

SPECIES | 14
INDIVIDUALS | 38



REPTILES

SPECIES | 9
INDIVIDUALS | 13

*A group defines a population of animals too numerous to count.

New to the Zoo



Corn snake | 1



Grey catbird | 1



Ducks | 10



Giant African millipedes | 52



Killdeer | 1



Chickens | 9



American robin | 1



Conservation making a difference

Conservation is a key component of Cosley Zoo's mission, and the zoo team contributes to conservation in many ways, including rearing endangered species for release, fundraising, promoting community conservation efforts, and raising awareness of conservation initiatives on local, national, and international levels.

Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project

Cosley Zoo has participated in the Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project, a partnership with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, since 2001. The Cosley Zoo team is involved in the Head Start Program, caring for hatchling turtles for the first year of their lives before releasing them back into nature. Blanding's turtles are endangered in Illinois for many reasons, but a significant cause of the species' decline is predation of the nests and hatchlings. By raising these turtles in human care, we can help to offset the predator losses, putting the young turtles back out into nature when they are larger in size and better able to protect themselves.



When they hatch, Blanding's turtles are about the size of a quarter and highly vulnerable to predators. Being raised at Cosley Zoo for the first year of their lives allows them to enter their natural habitat at a larger size which makes them more difficult for predators to consume.

On August 26, Zookeeper Alison Donahue joined staff from the Forest Preserve District on an excursion to one of their sites, where they released the 58 young turtles that Alison and the rest of Cosley Zoo's zookeepers had been caring for over the past year. Within just a few days, a new group of hatchlings arrived at the zoo to take their place, and there are now 86 new turtles being raised at the zoo for release in 2022. More than 4,000 turtles have been reared and released as a result of the Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project.

In addition to the hatchlings, Cosley Zoo houses seven sub-adult males with valuable genetics for use in a future breeding program as well as two adult males which are permanent residents of the zoo and are used as ambassador animals, helping staff members to create connections between zoo visitors and members of this locally endangered species.



One of Cosley Zoo's future breeding turtles takes a swim in the zoo's Blanding's Turtle Conservation Room.

Throughout the year, Cosley Zoo staff members and volunteers educate the public about the status of the Blanding's turtle and promote actions that will help to protect these animals

and their habitat. In 2021, education staff used videoconferencing to welcome program participants behind the scenes into the room where the hatchlings are being raised. While members of the public are typically unable to enter this room to prevent the turtles from becoming too accustomed to human presence, the virtual programming initiated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic allowed us to take visitors into that space without compromising the turtles' welfare or eventual ability to be released.

Citizen Science

Training individuals to participate in citizen science is an impactful way to get them involved in their communities and raise awareness of the dangers that local species can face. Cosley Zoo hosts training sessions for two citizen science programs which give scientists significant information regarding the distribution of local species.



After being trained by Cosley Zoo education staff, backyard birders censused birds in their backyards and submitted their findings to the Great Backyard Bird Count.

The Great Backyard Bird Count, facilitated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, and Birds Canada, gives

scientists important insights into bird populations when individuals worldwide take a census of the birds they see in a single weekend and enter their findings into a common database. In 2021, more than 300,000 birders participated, recording over 6,000 species in 190 countries.

In the weeks leading up to the Bird Count, Cosley Zoo Educator Jackie Karnstedt facilitated a virtual workshop for individuals and families, teaching them how to identify common backyard birds and to record and submit their observations. Jackie also conducted a training session for members of the zoo's Junior Zookeepers teen program, who then spent more than 60 hours observing birds during the weekend of the count.

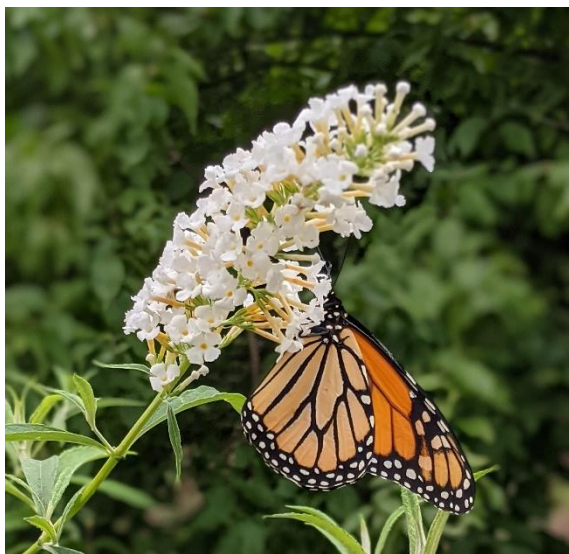
Cosley Zoo also sponsors a chapter of FrogWatch USA, an amphibian-monitoring program facilitated by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). This program trains community members to become amphibian monitors who survey frog and toad populations in a local wetland by identifying calls and submitting data several times over the course of the breeding season. In 2021, Zookeeper Alison LaBarge conducted two virtual FrogWatch USA training sessions, resulting in 39 households being trained in amphibian monitoring techniques and 55 observations being submitted on behalf of Cosley Zoo's FrogWatch chapter.

AZA SAFE

In 2021, Cosley Zoo staff members continued to contribute to conservation efforts for imperiled species on a national/international level through participation in the Associations of Zoos and Aquariums' Saving Species From Extinction (AZA SAFE) programs. These programs harness the collaborative efforts of facilities nationwide to save species in danger of

extinction. Members of the Cosley Zoo team serve as representatives to the following SAFE programs:

- Vaquita porpoise – Cosley Zoo supports the Public Engagement Team, which works to raise awareness of the world's most endangered marine mammal.
- American turtles – This team works to conserve and expand populations of wild turtles (including the Blanding's turtle), assist wildlife managers working to protect turtles, and develop a pathway for confiscated turtles to participate in conservation efforts.
- North American monarch – The Cosley Zoo team is part of a working group tasked with creating and protecting breeding habitat for monarch butterflies throughout their range.



Major threats to North American monarchs include habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change. The AZA SAFE North American Monarch program works to reduce these threats and inspire conservation efforts in support of monarchs.

- North American songbirds – Members of the Cosley Zoo staff serve as members of the Citizen Science initiative for this SAFE program, which works to conserve the 318 species of songbirds which spend all or part of their life cycle in North America.

Conservation Team

Besides facilitating two FrogWatch USA training programs, Cosley Zoo's multi-departmental Conservation Team spearheaded several other initiatives, both at the zoo and offsite.

In May and September, the team led Cosley Zoo staff and community volunteers in cleanups of Cosley Zoo's adopted section of Winfield Creek, located just south of the zoo. They also organized a November restoration workday for Cosley Zoo staff at nearby Churchill Woods.

The Conservation Team sponsored recycling events for cell phones and holiday lights in 2021. Working with national organization Gorillas on the Line, the Cosley Zoo team and 29 other participating facilities collected a total of 10,116 cell phones and other electronic devices. During the holiday season, Cosley Zoo visitors dropped off their unwanted or broken string lights for recycling, diverting a total of 424 strands from the landfill.



More than 400 pounds of lights were recycled during the 2021 holiday season.

Plastic Free Ecochallenge

In July, Cosley Zoo once again signed on as a sponsor for Ecochallenge.org's Plastic Free Ecochallenge, which encourages individuals to reduce their dependence on single-use plastics. In addition to making a monetary donation as a

challenge sponsor, Cosley Zoo also organized a team of participants. At the conclusion of the monthlong challenge, the zoo's nineteen-person team placed 82nd out of 391 teams by completing activities such as forgoing disposable straws, choosing reusable water bottles and cups, and picking up litter.

Sustainable and Eco-friendly Products

For many years, Cosley Zoo has carried retail products which are eco-friendly, offering consumers "green" options and demonstrating the zoo's commitment to conservation. In 2021, we continued to expand our offerings of sustainable items for purchase.

A popular addition to the gift shop sales shelves was bagged coffee that is Certified Bird Friendly®. Bird-friendly coffee is grown in shaded areas, avoiding traditional coffee growers' practice of clearcutting fields and destroying bird habitat.



Bird-friendly coffee is available for purchase in Cosley Zoo's gift shop.

We also began offering bird collision tape for sale. This tape adheres to windows and makes them more visible to birds, significantly

reducing the bird collisions which can cause significant injury or death. Selling bird-friendly products such as the coffee and collision tape helps the zoo to inspire its guests to practice conservation in their everyday lives while also demonstrating Cosley Zoo's commitment AZA SAFE's North American Songbird program.

With concessions drink orders, we began providing guests with bioassimilation straws, which function like plastic straws but are completely biodegradable.

Fundraising

Cosley Zoo also makes financial contributions to conservation by raising funds for various projects year-round. The zoo's Conservation Kiosk invites guests to donate their spare change towards helping one of three different species. As a result of 2021 visitor contributions, we donated \$500 each to conservation efforts for lions and monarch butterflies, and \$475 remained at Cosley Zoo in support of the Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project. Another \$2,037 was collected for the Blanding's turtles via donation requests at the point of sale in the Wild Side Gift Shop and Coyote Café concession stand.



Zoo visitors' spare change added up to a \$500 donation to lion conservation organizations.



BLANDING'S TURTLE



- This semi-aquatic turtle can live up to 80 years.
- Blanding's turtles are primarily found in the Great Lakes region of the United States. In Illinois, they are predominantly found in the northeast portion of the state, including DuPage County where Cosley Zoo is located.
- Cosley Zoo has been actively involved with the Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project since 2001.



NORTH AMERICAN MONARCH



- Monarchs travel up to 3,000 miles each fall from their breeding grounds in the US and Canada to their winter habitats in southern California and Mexico.
- With its striking orange and black pattern, the monarch is one of the most recognizable insects in the world.
- Special sensory cells on a monarch's antennae and feet help it to smell and taste.



AFRICAN LION



- Lions typically live in groups called prides, with females doing most of the hunting while the males protect the pride.
- A lion's roar can be heard up to 5 miles away.
- After the tiger, the lion is the second largest cat species in the world.



Each year, Cosley Zoo's Coins for Conservation kiosk raises funds supporting three animal species or groups.



Together we can save endangered species!

#SavingSpecies
AZASavingSpecies.org



**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**



SAFE
SAVING ANIMALS
FROM EXTINCTION



Education sharing the message

In 2021, the Cosley Zoo education team continued to adapt to new restrictions and requirements put into place because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, most of the zoo's formal education offerings took place virtually. In 2021, as the demand for in-person programming began to return, education staff made modifications to program design and confirmation material to comply with new state guidelines for mask wearing, social distancing, and capacity limits while still providing a fun and educational experience. In addition, the team continued to add virtual offerings to their repertoire to accommodate those who preferred to learn remotely due to health concerns or simply convenience.

Program highlights

Some of the most significant programs which were introduced, re-introduced or modified in 2021 included:

- Unique **in-person programs for individuals and families**, including Sunset Stories, Junior Animal Trainer, and the Family Enrichment Workshop series.



A family makes "birdseed braids" for the zoo's chickens and songbirds during the first session of the brand-new Family Enrichment Workshop.

- New **virtual programs for individuals and families**. Some of the most popular offerings included Animals and Art, History of Cosley Zoo, Breakfast with the Birds, and training programs for The Great Backyard Bird Count and FrogWatch USA.
- Amended **Discovery Stations** which provided opportunities for social distancing and reduced the touching of shared items. These informal guest interactions, previously extremely hands-on, were modified to allow staff and volunteers to present information in an engaging way with minimized risk to presenter and participants.



Cosley Zoo's Discovery Stations were modified to allow guests to participate in an educational experience while still promoting social distancing and other pandemic-related safety precautions.

- **Customized live animal video greetings** for Valentine's Day, Easter and Christmas.
- Revised **events** which allowed visitors to continue their traditions of spending holidays at the zoo, but in a safe way that aligned with COVID-19 mitigations in place at the time. These events were met with great enthusiasm, with Easter Bunny Visits and Spooktacular Halloween Stroll filling to capacity and Santa's Craft Corner experiencing revenue that netted an all-time high.

- A series of three **virtual workshops** on topics such as conservation and zoo history for the zoo's Summer Teen Interpreters.
- The return of public **duck feeding sessions** after an 18-month hiatus.



Cosley Zoo visitors eagerly participated in duck feeding sessions when they returned in May 2021.

- Custom programs on **amazing animal adaptations** for West Aurora School District 129, who scheduled all 415 of their third-grade students for fall field trips to the zoo.
- Reworked **summer camps**, whose initial registration numbers were high enough to warrant the offering of an additional camp session to accommodate individuals on the wait list.

Junior Zookeepers (JZs)

During the 2020-2021 Junior Zookeeper Year, members of our teen program participated in a mixture of virtual and in-person activities, designed to provide a well-rounded experience in a safe environment. Large group meetings were hosted virtually, allowing the teens to attend from the safety of their homes. Meanwhile, some of the popular small group activities which were unable to be offered in 2020 resumed in person in 2021. These included training programs on facilitating duck feeding sessions, interpretation, animal observations, and animal handling as well as the summer incentives program, in which teens

who have contributed significantly to the program earn the privilege of assisting with animal care tasks.

When the 2021-2022 season began in September, staff and participants were delighted to be able to resume activities that took place primarily in person, while virtual opportunities continued to be offered for those who preferred them. A record-setting 54 Junior Zookeepers were onboarded in 2021.



Junior Zookeepers help to remove debris from Cosley Zoo's adopted section of Winfield Creek.

Caboose renovation

During 2021, the zoo's education team worked with a professional consultant to design a concept for the renovation of the interior of the zoo's iconic caboose. In 2008, a local Eagle Scout candidate transformed the caboose interior from an empty shell into a learning experience filled with interactive activities for children. While these activities were enjoyed by zoo visitors for many years, they had recently begun to show signs of wear and needed replacement. Activities supporting the new learning theme "Animals Are Like Me!" have been designed to help children develop a sense of empathy for animals. The new learning features are currently being fabricated, and we look forward to reopening the caboose in 2022.

Program numbers

While education program participant numbers have not yet increased to pre-COVID levels, that is not unexpected. Capacity limits put in place by the state of Illinois, restrictions on school field trips, and the rise in prominence of the omicron COVID-19 variant all affected Cosley Zoo's 2021 program participant numbers. Despite these challenges, zoo staff was still able to provide educational experiences for more than 50,000 individuals, an enormous increase from the 4,968 people participating in programs in 2020. The chart below shows a breakdown of participation by program type.

Numbers of Program Participants in 2021		
Type of program	Number of participants	Percentage of total
Guest Engagement	40,431	77%
Rentals	2,781	5%
Camps	119	<1%
Outreach	3,311	6%
Junior Zookeepers	546	1%
Special Events	2,300	4%
School Programs	2,068	4%
Scout Programs	34	<1%
Park District Programs	808	2%
Total	52,398	100%

Guest Engagement: Informal drop-in programs which do not require registration. Guest Engagement includes Discovery Stations, animal encounters, and duck feeding.

Rentals: Reservations of a space at the zoo for a party, meeting, or other private event. Rentals often include educational animal presentations.

Camps: Week-long summer programs for children ages 4-15.

Outreach: Educational programs which take place at another organization's facility, such as a school, church, or retirement community.

Junior Zookeepers: Meetings and other gatherings of Cosley Zoo's teen program.

Special Events: Celebrations open to the public.

School Programs: Education offerings designed to complement classroom curriculum or meet other specific needs.

Scout Programs: Education offerings designed to complement scout badge requirements.

Park District Programs: Programs for individuals and families.



People making connections

While animals may provide the initial draw for individuals and families to visit Cosley Zoo, it is the people associated with the zoo who really make our guests' visits special. The zoo's staff, interns, volunteers and supporters all play a role in making Cosley Zoo an amazing place to visit, learn, and work.

Staff milestones and transitions

The Cosley Zoo team warmly welcomed several new staff members in 2021. Teddy Almer, former Cosley Zoo animal care intern, accepted a permanent zookeeper position, coming to us after three years as the Lead Keeper at Worcester, Massachusetts' EcoTarium. Allison Ginsburg also joined the zookeeper staff, bringing to Cosley Zoo with extensive animal care experience gained by working at several AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums. Allison filled the Zookeeper position vacated when Heather Christophe was promoted to Lead Zookeeper & Animal Welfare Coordinator. Peter Davia joined the Cosley Zoo staff as a Building & Grounds Assistant in May and was promoted to Building & Grounds Supervisor in September. Peter comes to Cosley Zoo with vast experience in a variety of trades including painting, electrical, plumbing, and drywall.

Two zoo staff members celebrated milestone anniversaries in 2020. Jon Scheiwe from the Buildings & Grounds Department celebrated five years as part of the zoo team, and Animal Curator Angie Musselman also reached a significant milestone, celebrating 25 years of employment. Congratulations, Jon and Angie!

Interdepartmental teams

To promote the zoo's initiatives, ensure an excellent visitor experience, and foster a culture of safety, the zoo has established several

interdepartmental staff teams, which achieved significant accomplishments in 2021.

- **Animal Handling Team:** This team works to ensure that all staff members who handle ambassador animals are thoroughly and consistently trained in safe handling practices and presentation skills. The team spent 2021 working on a presentation testing guide which will be used to help assess the ability of staff and volunteers to give effective ambassador animal presentations.



Cosley Zoo's Animal Handling Team facilitates the training of staff, volunteers, and interns who utilize ambassador animals in public presentations.

- **Conservation Team:** The Conservation Team facilitated recycling drives for cell phones and holiday lights, hosted two stream cleanups for members of the public and zoo staff, updated content for the zoo's website, and sponsored two staff volunteer workdays at local forest preserve sites.
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** This team developed a three-year strategic plan and created social media content for Black History Month.
- **Emergency Preparedness Team:** The team facilitated four emergency response drills, presented several

interactive staff trainings on emergency procedures, and worked with other small Illinois zoos to create a Memorandum of Understanding and resource list which can be used to facilitate collaboration in the event of a large-scale emergency.

Volunteers

Volunteers have always been an integral part of Cosley Zoo's team. These dedicated individuals help the zoo to fulfill its mission by interpreting zoo exhibits, assisting with animal care tasks, and keeping the zoo grounds free from litter.



Interpretive Volunteer Elaine Purnell facilitates a public duck feeding session.

In spring 2021, Cosley Zoo was delighted to welcome volunteers back to their posts after a yearlong hiatus necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Volunteers donated a total of 2,012 hours of their time (a monetary value of \$57,436.75 according to independentsector.org) in 2021.

The zoo's education team was especially excited for the return of the Summer Teen Interpreters program in June 2021. This opportunity, in which young people entering grades 7-12 are trained on interpretive techniques before utilizing their newfound skills to enhance the experience of zoo visitors, is often the first volunteer experience for the teens who participate. The 2021 Summer Teen season

welcomed 18 participants who contributed a total of 508 hours, the highest participation numbers since the program's inception in 2013.



A Summer Teen Interpreter teaches young visitors about raccoons.

Visitorship

Zoo attendance was at its peak in 2021, with record attendance numbers. Timed ticketing, which was implemented in 2020 to comply with capacity limits enacted by the state as part of the Restore Illinois Plan to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, was continued in 2021 in order to help spread out visitation and manage the zoo's small parking lot. Using a timed ticketing program also provides zoo staff with contact information for visitors, allowing us to maintain connections with them after their zoo visit.

Cosley Zoo's 2021 visitors came from six countries and 48 US states, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. The tables below and maps on

the following pages show a more detailed breakdown of our visitors' demographics, residency, and zoo membership status.

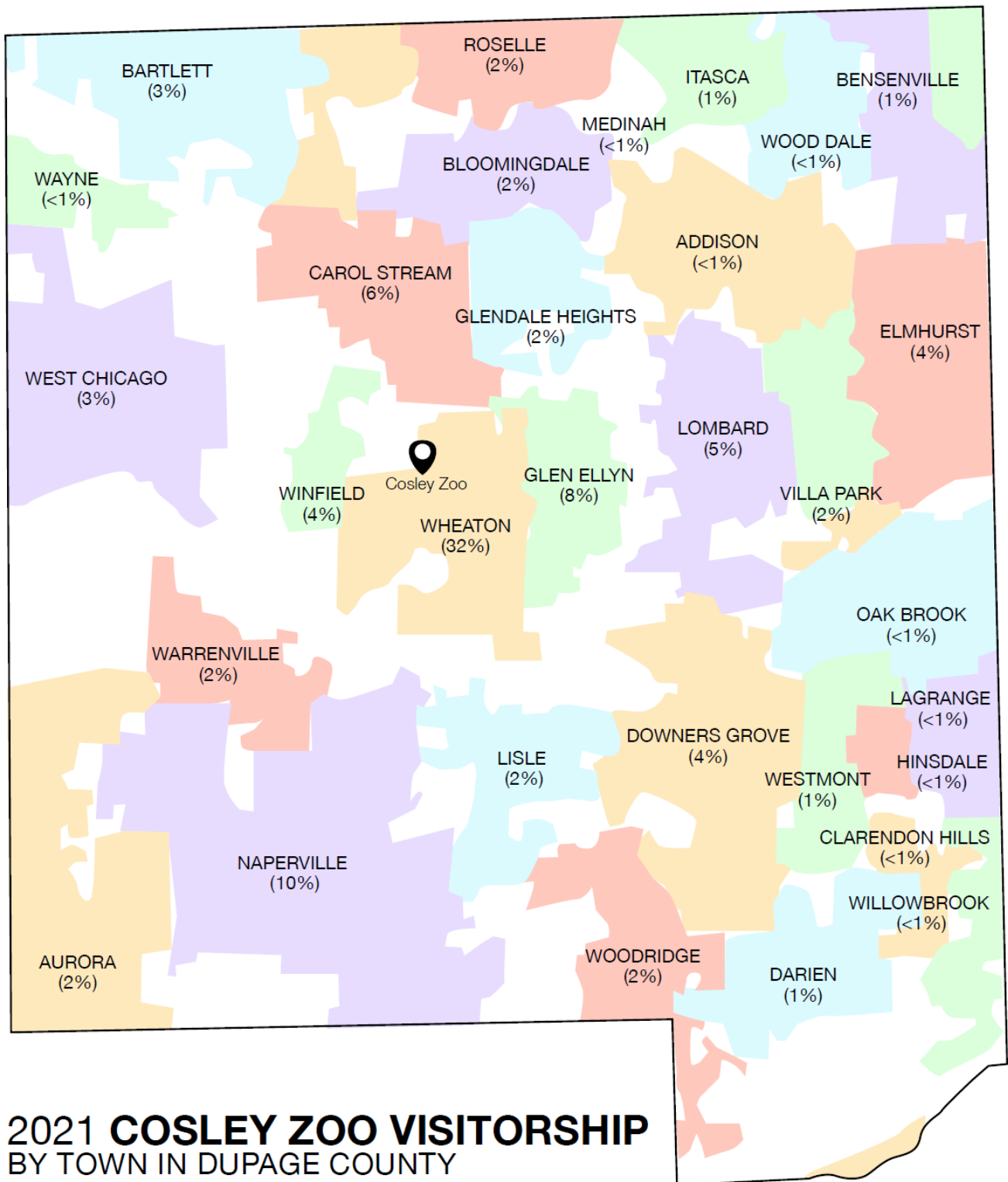
2021 visitor data (age)		
Age group	Number of visitors	Percentage of total
Child (birth-17 years)	86,806	50%
Adult (18-54 years)	71,181	41%
Senior (55+ years)	15,625	9%
Total	173,612	100%

2021 visitor data (residency)		
Age group	Number of visitors	Percentage of total
Wheaton Park District residents	22,570	13%
Non-residents	151,042	87%
Total	173,612	100%

2021 visitor data (members/nonmembers)		
Membership status	Number of visitors	Percentage of total
Cosley Zoo members	13,504	8%
Nonmembers	160,108	92%
Total	173,612	100%

2021 visitor data (paid visitors vs. free admission)		
Admission type	Number of visitors	Percentage of total
Paid admission	57,742	33%
Free admission*	115,870	67%
Total	173,612	100%

**Visitors receiving free admission include Wheaton Park District residents, all children 17 and under regardless of residency, Cosley Zoo members, and members of reciprocal institutions.*

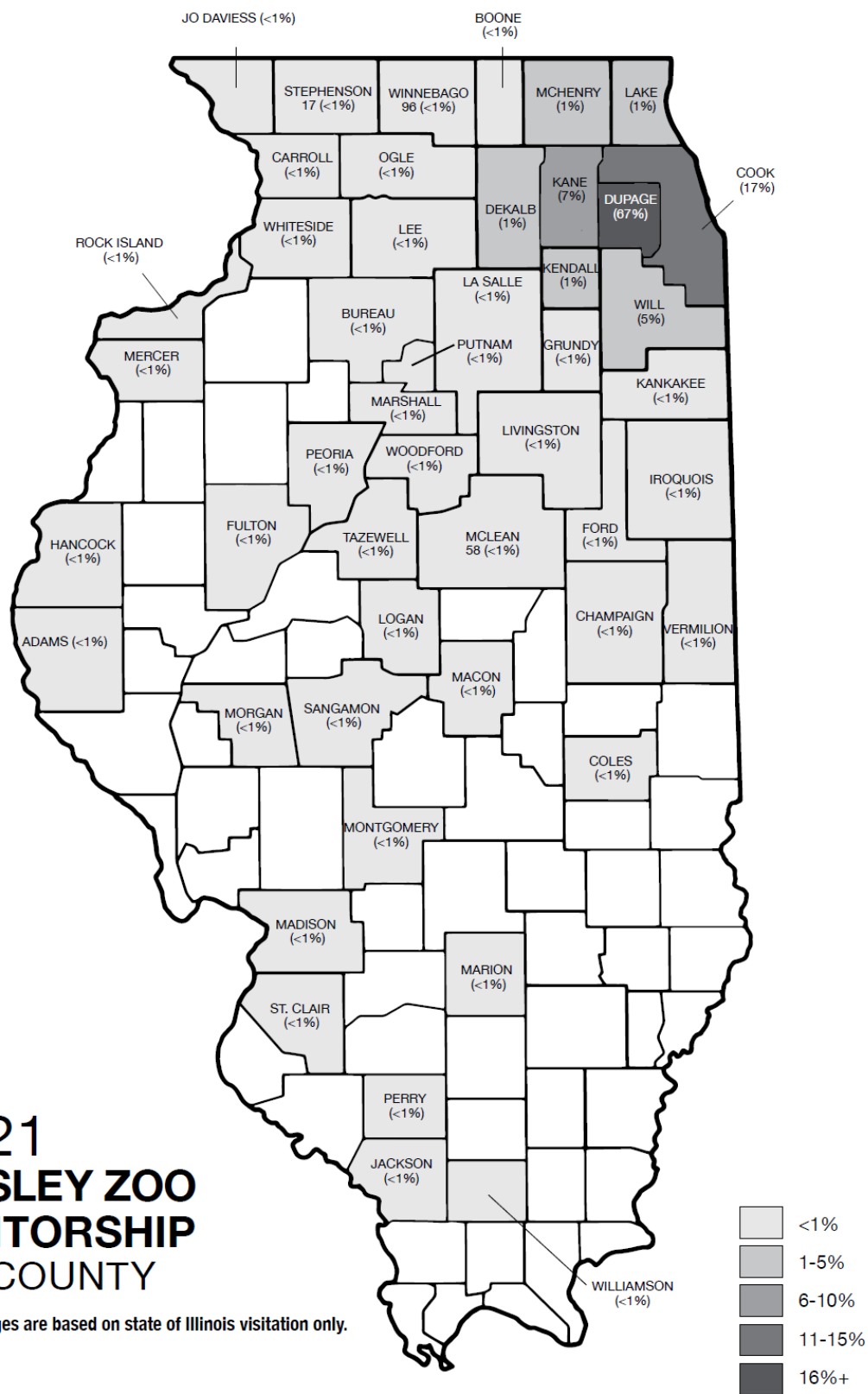


2021 COSLEY ZOO VISITORSHIP BY TOWN IN DUPAGE COUNTY

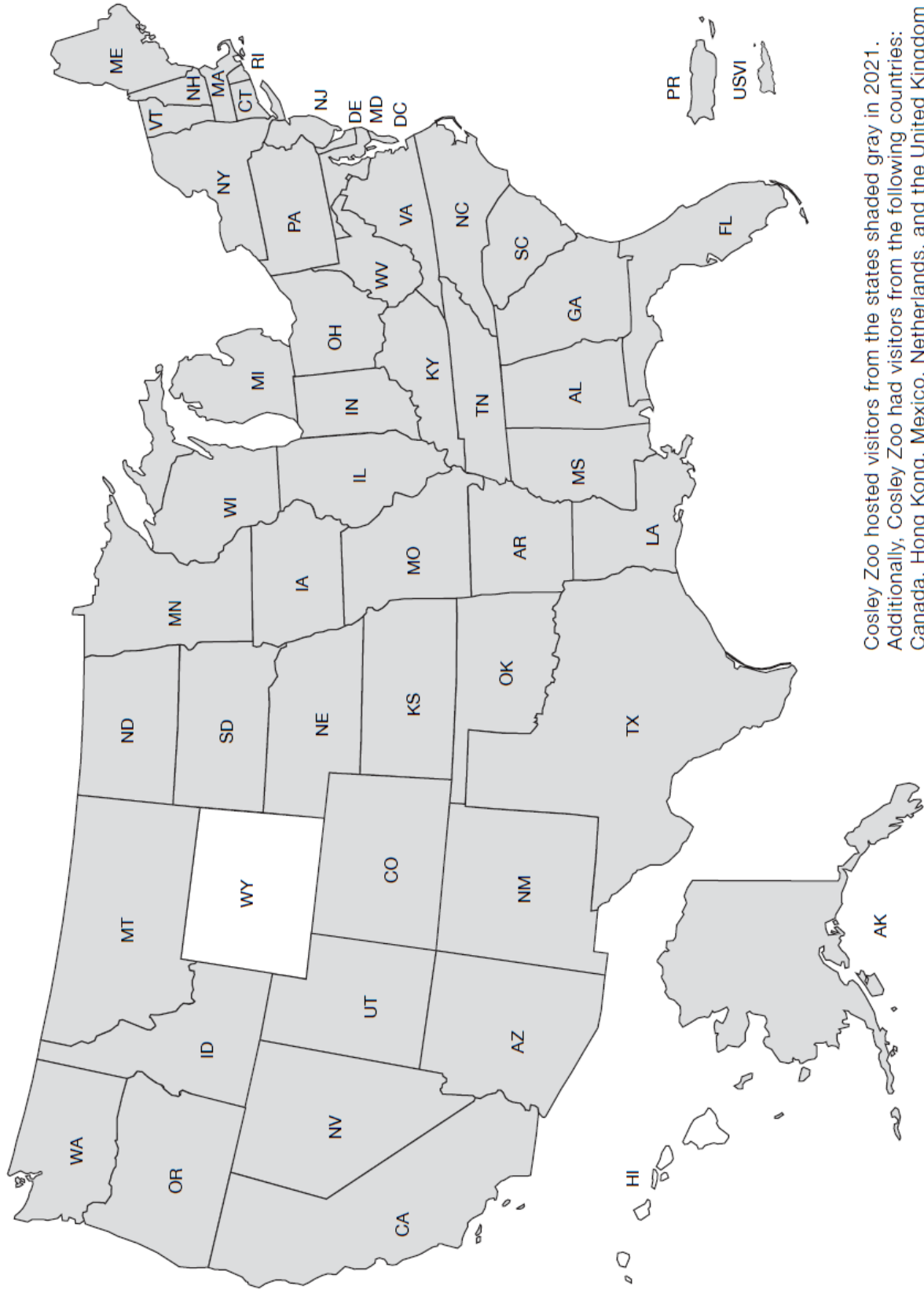
Percentages are based on DuPage County visitation only.

2021 COSLEY ZOO VISITORSHIP BY COUNTY

Percentages are based on state of Illinois visitation only.



2021 COSLEY ZOO VISITORSHIP BY STATE



Cosley Zoo hosted visitors from the states shaded gray in 2021. Additionally, Cosley Zoo had visitors from the following countries: Canada, Hong Kong, Mexico, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom



*Some of the staff, volunteers, and
interns who contribute to Cosley
Zoo's success*

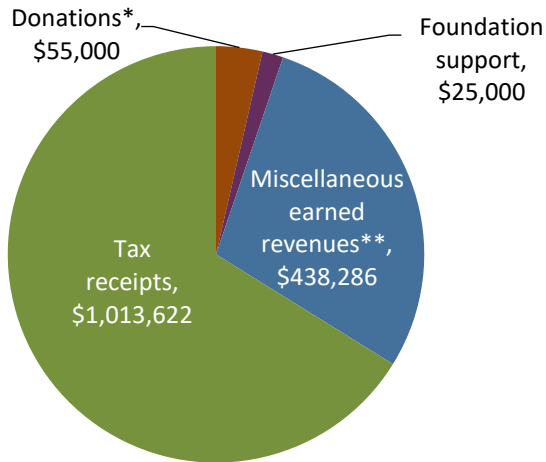




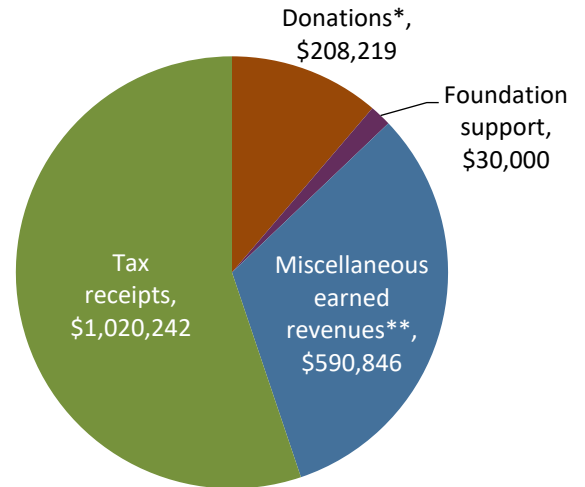
Finance dollars and sense

Budgeted revenue for 2021 totaled \$1,531,908 with actual revenue of \$1,849,307.

Budgeted Revenue Fiscal Year 2021



Actual Revenue Fiscal Year 2021

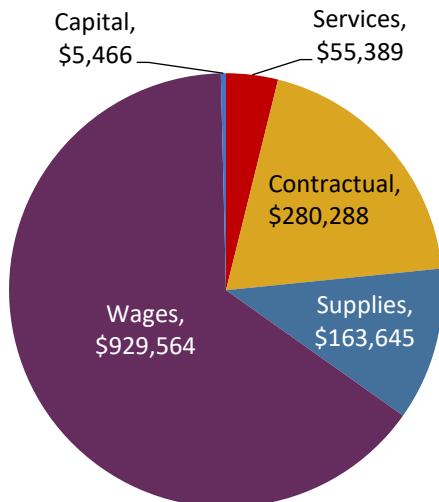


**Donations include Holiday Wish Tree, Coins for Conservation, donations through the zoo's online ticketing system, and conservation donations requested at the gift shop register. Actual revenue from donations was much greater than the budgeted amount due in large part to a generous donor who continued to contribute \$75,000 in annual operational support and a shift in funds from the capital campaign to operational support.*

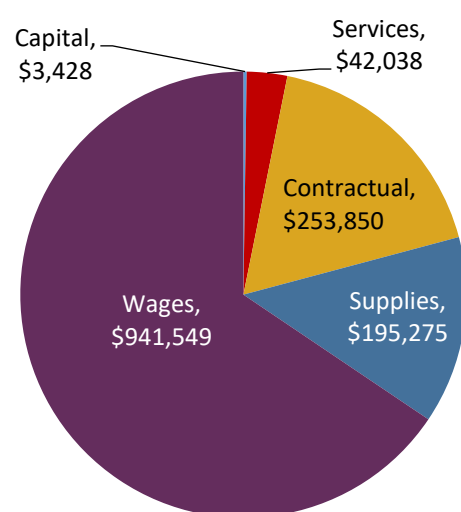
***Earned revenues include admission fees, penny and wind machine income, animal adoptions, facility rentals, program revenue, sponsorships, grants, credit card rebates and interest.*

Budgeted expenses for 2021 totaled \$1,434,352 with actual expenses of \$1,436,140. The zoo experienced a net income of \$413,167.

Budgeted Expenses Fiscal Year 2021



Actual Expenses Fiscal Year 2021



Cosley Zoo receives revenue from a variety of sources, including both the Wheaton Park District and the Cosley Foundation. The following data is for Wheaton Park District revenue only. Information pertaining to Cosley Foundation revenue may be found on page 31.

Wheaton Park District Earned Revenue Sources, 2017-2021					
Revenue Source	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^c	2021
Donations, sponsorships and grants	\$23,538	\$32,981 ^a	\$66,184 ^b	\$163,536 ^d	\$208,219
Penny and wind machine	\$6,417	\$5,048	\$5,220	\$74	\$3,050
Animal adoptions	\$1,709	\$1,095	\$865	\$1,688	\$1,665
General admission	\$348,853	\$287,566	\$278,933	\$199,495	\$418,684 ^e
Programs, events and rentals	\$182,389	\$194,394	\$220,106	\$36,808	\$135,472
Cosley Foundation support	\$18,750	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Interest and miscellaneous income	\$4,862	\$15,333	\$34,294	\$18,445	\$1,797
Total revenue	\$586,518	\$561,417	\$630,602	\$450,046	\$798,887

^a Donations increased significantly due to a new donation program at the Wild Side Gift Shop point of sale and a personal contribution.

^b There was another significant increase in donations due to an increase in the previously mentioned personal contribution and several new event sponsorships.

^c The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a four-month zoo shutdown, which had a significant impact on many sources of revenue.

^d Fall and year-end appeals were enhanced with a \$75,000 match donation, which significantly increased contributions.

^e The admission fee increased in 2021 from \$7 to \$8 for non-resident adults and \$6 to \$7 for non-resident seniors.

In 2021, Cosley Zoo was the recipient of several substantial operational grants and donations. These funds made possible the following purchases, some of which will occur in 2022:

- A pulse oximeter with ECG and otoscope/ophthalmoscope for animal diagnostic use
- A desktop computer and tablet for use by the zookeeper staff to facilitate behavioral observations and daily recordkeeping
- A large animal scale
- New ambassador animal enclosures
- Classroom technology upgrades, including a SMART board, laptop, wi-fi, document camera, and lighting, that will enhance the zoo's education programs
- A van to be used for Zoo to You outreach programs

- An artificial log shelter for the rabbit yard
- An electronic information kiosk for guests

Cosley Zoo staff is grateful for the generous donors who made these purchases possible.



Cosley Zoo Director Susan Wahlgren (second from right) and Cosley Foundation President Susan Varcak (far right) accept a \$5,000 check from the Carol Stream Rotary Club.



Cosley Foundation a path to the future

Established in 1986 to raise funds for the development of Cosley Zoo, the Cosley Foundation is an integral component of the zoo's overall success. The volunteer foundation board works diligently throughout the year to ensure the zoo receives the support it needs to grow and fulfill its mission.

The Cosley Foundation board continues to expand and offer strong support as we look to the zoo's future. The board welcomed three new members in 2021, and as of December 31, the Cosley Foundation board consisted of:

Matt Szafranski, President
 Shayne Purdue, Vice President
 Michael Benard, Secretary
 Adam Sharpee, Treasurer
 Jennifer Clark
 Phyllis Geyer
 Rachel Ittner
 Larry Kmiecik
 Ashley Rabatic
 Susan Varcak

Cosley Zoo's very first spring appeal was a remarkable success in large part due to a generous matching grant awarded by an

anonymous donor. The \$15,000 matching grant helped the Cosley Foundation raise \$31,815 for the zoo. This was the first of three appeals in the 2021 calendar year.

In addition to fundraising appeals, the Cosley Foundation sponsors several events throughout the year to raise funds for capital projects and support operations. While the COVID-19 pandemic caused a significant decrease in many areas of revenue in 2020, we saw many of them rebound in 2021, realizing record revenue in several areas (Festival of Lights, Pumpkin Fest and retail sales).

The sale of zoo memberships also reached an all-time high in 2021, with 998 families registered as Cosley Zoo members.

Cosley Zoo Member Families 2019-2021			
	2019	2020	2021
Number of families	848	618	998

The following chart shows the amount of revenue gained from Cosley Foundation fundraisers, as well as a five-year comparison of funds earned.

Cosley Foundation Net Revenue 2017-2021					
Revenue Source	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^b	2021
Zoo Membership	\$29,331	\$36,462	\$54,471	\$34,129	\$58,759
Retail Revenue	\$110,653	\$104,527	\$110,129	\$72,666	\$158,533
General Donations	\$27,100	\$43,913	\$68,149	\$119,042	\$210,795
Capital Donations (Renew the Zoo) ^a	\$70,724	(\$15,719)	\$14,546	\$148,279	(\$61,496)
Run for the Animals	\$56,045	\$64,114	\$64,702	\$23,239	\$23,967
Cosley Classic Golf Outing	\$38,646	\$40,161	\$39,743	\$15,643	\$37,576
Pumpkin Fest	\$9,113	\$15,717	\$12,730	\$16,998	\$17,816
Festival of Lights & Tree Sales	\$101,753	\$102,188	\$117,429	\$113,216	\$134,790
Total Net Revenue	\$443,365	\$391,363	\$481,899	\$543,212	\$580,740

^a All expenses for both general and capital donations are taken from the gross Capital Donation proceeds, resulting in negative balances during selected years.

^b Many areas of revenue experienced a significant decrease in revenue in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Marketing communicating our vision

At the beginning of each calendar year, we review the past year's successes and make a plan for marketing and development goals. We organize a monthly calendar to outline our various initiatives, events and projects.

It is important that we focus on sharing the Cosley Zoo story and driving attendance through all communication channels to include public relations, digital marketing, static signage, social media and online and print media.

In 2021, we continued to require advance ticket reservations using the Eventbrite ticketing system. In doing so, we were able to grow our email data base tremendously and communicate our programs and events to a larger audience.

We issued a total of four press releases, distributed 39 e-mail blasts and designed 30 social media posts. E-mail marketing continues to be one of our most effective methods of marketing due to our targeted subscriber data base. The average open rate is 39% with a click-through rate of 10%.

Our social media following has grown dramatically and our engagement continues to be strong. In 2021, Cosley Zoo's Facebook following increased to 22,000 (up from 20,000 in 2020), and our Instagram following reached 2,838 (up from 2,300 in 2020).

Additional marketing highlights in 2021 included:

- Sending more than 6,500 direct mail and e-mail promotions to area schools, day cares and park districts to promote virtual programming.
- Printing signage for display at the zoo.

- Featuring zoo programs and events in the Wheaton Park District's quarterly digital program guide.
- Selling tickets to the brand-new All Together Virtual Concert in partnership with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). This concert, featuring artists including Brad Paisley and Old Dominion, raised funds to assist zoos and aquariums impacted by COVID-19.
- Participating in interviews with NBC's Chris Coffey, WGN's Marcella Raymond, WBBM's Steve Miller, and Batavia Public Library staff for a Facebook Live program.



Educator and Teen Specialist Jackie Karnstedt participates in a live interview with WGN-TV.

- Participating in a takeover of AZA's social media pages, sharing six posts that highlighted the Blanding's Turtle Recovery Project.
- Distributing Cosley Tails e-newsletters highlighting various animals, staff members and conservation efforts.
- Highlighting events and daily activities on the television screen displayed in the gift shop.
- Posting news, photos and program information on social media.
- Maintaining profiles and links from various advertisers such as kidlist.com, timeout.com, yelp.com,

chicagoparent.com, and
discoverdupage.com.

- Participating in the Three Fires Boy Scout Council STEM Spectacular, where our staff promoted the zoo and the variety of education programs we offer.
- Continuing the zoo's presence on yelp.com. The page received a large increase in profile views, up to 3,100 from 2,300 in 2020.

Cosley Zoo's website, cosleyzoo.org, continues to experience an increase in visitation. In 2021, the zoo had 275,483 unique visitors as compared to 229,882 in 2020.



More than 275,000 unique visitors viewed Cosley Zoo's website in 2021.

The top five frequented pages were:

1. homepage (216,344)
2. /plan-your-visit/tickets/ (49,012)
3. /plan-your-visit/ (41,710)
4. /event-calendar/festival-of-lights-and-tree-sales/ (23,924)
5. /plan-your-visit/fees-reservations/ (22,724)

The top 10 referral sites were:

1. facebook.com
2. mykidlist.com
3. hedgehogworld.com
4. timeout.com
5. chicagoparent.com
6. alittletimeandakeyboard.com
7. discoverdupage.com
8. duckduckgo.com
9. wheatonparkdistrict.com
10. eventbrite.com

Mobile devices are still representing a high majority of users at 68% as compared to 62% in 2020.

The collage on the next several pages highlights various ads, signage, eblasts, and other graphics created for Cosley Zoo in 2021.

Marketing Collage

General Facility



WE'RE OPEN ALL WINTER!

ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED AT COSLEYZOO.ORG

KIDS ARE FREE

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

Register at cosleyzoo.org



COSLEY ZOO

A LIFETIME OF INSPIRATION BEGINS HERE

DAILY ACTIVITIES
OVER 200 HITS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS
CONSERVATION INITIATIVE
SPECIAL EVENTS & RENTALS
SERVING 100,000 VISITORS ANNUALLY
FREE KIDS ADMISSION

cosleyzoo.org
100 North Gary Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187
630.880.1000
Facebook Twitter Instagram



Oh Deer

Don't have admission tickets?

Visit cosleyzoo.org

MEAL DEALS			
Includes Chips or Animal Crackers & Medium Drink			
Pizza Meal	\$9.00	Kraft Mac & Cheese Meal	\$7.00
Eisenberg Hot Dog Meal	\$6.75	Smucker's Peanut Butter & Jelly Meal	\$5.75
Chicken Nuggets Meal	\$7.50		
FOOD & SNACKS			
Eisenberg Hot Dog	\$3.75	Cheese Dog	\$4.25
Chicken Nuggets	\$4.50	Kraft Macaroni & Cheese	\$4.00
Pretzel	\$3.75	Pretzel with Cheese	\$4.25
5" Personal Cheese Pizza	\$6.25	Smucker's Peanut Butter & Jelly	\$2.75
Nachos (Jalapenos or Extra Cheese 60¢)	\$4.50	Chips, Animal Crackers	\$1.50
Candy	\$2.25	Ice Cream	\$2.50-\$3.50
		Root Beer Floats	\$2.95-\$3.95
BEVERAGES			
Fountain Drink	Small \$1.85 Medium \$2.10 Large \$2.35	Bottled Water	\$2.00
		Hot Chocolate, Coffee	\$1.50
		Juice Box	\$1.30

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR VISIT

All guests must have a pre-purchased, timed-entry ticket. Tickets are only available at cosleyzoo.org.

Coyote Cafe* and Wild Side Gift Shop are open
*Weather dependent

For Your Safety:
- If you are fully vaccinated you are not required to wear a mask in the zoo
- If you are **NOT** fully vaccinated you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask

Thank you and enjoy the zoo!





Summer AT COSLEY ZOO

Daily Activities | Nature Play | Duck Feeding

Tickets required at cosleyzoo.org


ADMISSION FEES

Nonresident Adults (ages 18-54)	\$8*
Nonresident Adults (ages 55 & over)	\$7*
Wheaton Park District Residents (with ID)	Free
Cosley Zoo Members (with member card & ID)	Free
All Children (17 & under)	Free

*Processing fees will apply

Cash, Check, Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.





ADMISSION FEES

- Nonresident Adults (ages 18-54) \$8*
- Nonresident Adults (ages 55 & over) \$7*
- Wheaton Park District Residents (with ID) Free
- Cosley Zoo Members (with member card & ID) Free
- All Children (17 & under) Free

Your admission fees help the zoo care for its animals, participate in wildlife conservation and provide educational programs.

*Processing fees will apply.

Cash, Check, Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

Special Events



Sponsored By

**WHEATON BANK
& TRUST COMPANY***
A WELLS FARGO COMPANY



Sponsored by
**WHEATON BANK
& TRUST COMPANY***
A WELLS FARGO COMPANY



Sponsored by



**WHEATON BANK
& TRUST COMPANY***
A WELLS FARGO COMPANY



Sponsored by **First Trust**



Education & Outreach

COSLEY ZOO **A 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT GEM**

Conservation of the Natural World - A Tradition of Inspiration

Cosley Zoo offers visitors of all ages, an over 100-acre gem of life and nature within a lush setting in DuPage County, Illinois. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

For more information, please contact Bob Winkler, Cosley Zoo Director at 630.855.0334 or info@cosleyzoo.org.

COSLEY ZOO **2020 IMPACT REPORT**
Thank you!

Here are the highlights of your tremendous impact through your generous gifts, zoo membership, event participation and volunteering.

104,000 VISITORS*
This year we welcomed 104,000 visitors to the zoo.

EDUCATION
Over 134 virtual education programs were completed in 2020.

ANIMAL CARE & WELFARE
Provided daily enrichment for 200 animals and 27 new animals to the zoo.

CONDUCTED MORE THAN 1,300 ANIMAL TRAINING SESSIONS to support their physical and mental well-being.

COSLEY ZOO **WHY SUPPORT COSLEY ZOO**
CREATING CONNECTIONS. VIRTUALLY. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Animals need environmental changes and as does Cosley Zoo. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

WHY SUPPORT COSLEY ZOO
Cosley Zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

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Cosley Zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

ZOO AND AQUARIUM CAUCUS

The Congressional Zoo and Aquarium Caucus is comprised of supportive members of the U.S. House of Representatives who join together to support the interests of zoo and aquariums. The Congressional Zoo and Aquarium Caucus co-chairs are Representative Mike Gohmert (R-TX) and Representative Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE).

Through the Caucus, the community of zoo and aquariums provides to Congress valuable expertise and resources in animal care and welfare, endangered species, conservation education, and conservation science research. The goals of the caucus are to:

- Recognize the collective impact of America's accredited zoos and aquariums as they promote science education, conservation and family recreation;
- Offer appreciation for the work of zoos and aquariums as they inspire stewardship, caring and discovery through engaging exhibits and conservation education programs; and,
- Promote zoos and aquariums as science education partners with the nation's public schools.

aza.org

COSLEY ZOO **A DUPAGE COUNTY GEM**

Conservation of the Natural World - A Tradition of Inspiration

Cosley Zoo offers visitors of all ages, an over 100-acre gem of life and nature within a lush setting in DuPage County, Illinois. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

For more information, please contact Bob Winkler, Cosley Zoo Director at 630.855.0334 or info@cosleyzoo.org.

Cosley Zoo is for the BIRDS.

Join Cosley Zoo in supporting the conservation of birds around the world!

COSLEY ZOO **WHY SUPPORT COSLEY ZOO**
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

Cosley Zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

WHY SUPPORT COSLEY ZOO
Cosley Zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

WHY SUPPORT COSLEY ZOO
Cosley Zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence. The zoo is a unique combination of natural beauty and scientific excellence.

Eblasts

Thank you for your tremendous impact at Cosley Zoo through generous gifts, zoo membership, event participation and volunteering!

BECAUSE OF YOU, Cosley Zoo ...

- Welcomed **104,000 VISITORS***
*Based on a year that the zoo was closed for much of the year due to the pandemic.
- Created **134 NEW VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL Programs**
- Provided world-class care for **230 ANIMALS**
- Welcomed **21 NEW ANIMALS**
- Rescued and released **55 ENDANGERED TURTLES** into the wilds of DuPage
- Organized **2 STREAM CLEAN-UPS**
- Raised **\$410,000+** of support from the **COMMUNITY**

During one of the zoo's most challenging years, you chose to make a difference. **Thank you!**

[Donate](#)

Cosley Zoo Run for the Animals Frequently Asked Questions

Event Date: Saturday, June 3, 2023
Event Time: 7:00 - 10:00 AM
Event Location: Cosley Zoo, 1000 S. DuPage Ave., DuPage, IL 60118

Event Description: The event is a 5K run/walk to support the zoo's conservation efforts and to raise funds for the zoo's operations. The event will take place on the zoo's grounds and will be a fun and exciting way to spend the day with your family and friends.

Event Details: The event is a 5K run/walk that will take place on the zoo's grounds. The event will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM. The event is free of charge, but there is a suggested donation of \$10 per person. The event is open to all ages and abilities.

Event Schedule:

- 7:00 AM - Registration and Sign-in
- 7:30 AM - Event Starts
- 8:00 AM - Run/Walk
- 9:00 AM - Event Ends
- 9:30 AM - Awards Ceremony
- 10:00 AM - Event Ends

Event Location: The event will take place on the zoo's grounds, which are located at 1000 S. DuPage Ave., DuPage, IL 60118. The event will be held on the zoo's main grounds, which are open to the public.

Event Registration: Registration for the event is open now. To register for the event, please visit the zoo's website at www.cosleyzoo.org. Registration is free of charge, but there is a suggested donation of \$10 per person.

Event Sponsorship: The event is sponsored by the zoo's board of directors and its members. The event is also sponsored by the zoo's volunteers and its supporters.

Event Contact: For more information about the event, please contact the zoo's director at info@cosleyzoo.org.

It takes a Zookeeper

Cosley Zoo to celebrate National Zookeeper Week July 18-24

Whitney, A., Cosley Zoo's first female keeper, is one of the many dedicated and passionate people who work at the zoo. She is a keeper of the zoo's first female keeper, Whitney, A., who is a keeper of the zoo's first female keeper. She is a keeper of the zoo's first female keeper, Whitney, A., who is a keeper of the zoo's first female keeper.

Cosley Zoo employs 11 zookeepers whose primary responsibility is the care and welfare of the animals. Zookeepers take on many unique roles which include feeding, training, enrichment, medical, education, conservation and public relations. Zookeepers also work closely with veterinarians to create robust individualized preventive health care and nutrition plans.

During National Zookeeper Week, July 18 to July 24, Cosley Zoo will celebrate all that the zookeepers do for the animals. The zoo will be highlighting the animal caretaker staff on social media, and providing some special treats and activities to show appreciation for their hard work.

"Our zookeepers are the most dedicated and passionate people I have ever met or worked with," said Sue Hurlingham, Director of Cosley Zoo. "They show up every day ready and willing to do whatever it takes to make sure that the animals are well cared for. National Zookeeper Week gives us another opportunity to show all of them how appreciated they are."

The Cosley Zoo animal care team includes Amanda of Glendale Heights; Heather of Elk Grove Village; Christina of South Elgin; Alison of Carol Stream; Alison of South Elgin; James of West Chicago; Caryn of Bellingham; One of Aurora; Jack of Naperville; Todd of Wheaton; and Todd of Lombard.

Additionally, Angela, Animal Caretaker of North Aurora, is responsible for feeding and managing our zookeeper team.

To learn more about Cosley Zoo animal care team, visit cosleyzoo.org.

For up to date information about Cosley Zoo:
Website: www.cosleyzoo.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cosleyzoo>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cosleyzoo>

Cosley Zoo Silent Auction Bidding Open!

Make sure to bid on the Cosley Zoo Silent Auction items. The auction items will be open for bidding from Monday, August 14, 2023, to Friday, August 18, 2023. The auction items will be open for bidding from Monday, August 14, 2023, to Friday, August 18, 2023.

To view all of the available items and to register to bid, visit the [Cosley Zoo Website](http://cosleyzoo.org). All items include local pickup up to the auctioneer's office. All proceeds from the auction will be used to support the zoo's conservation efforts and to raise funds for the zoo's operations.

AUCTION ITEMS

Eblasts

Cosley Zoo is ready for the 2021-2022 school year!

CURRICULUM TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

Whether you are looking for a virtual or in-person experience, Cosley Zoo is here for you.

Featuring a diverse series of educational offerings, including problem-based learning challenges, animal study and pre-recorded assembly programs, we have a presentation that will complement your curriculum. Our professional zoo educators and live animal ambassadors will help learning come alive with our animal, science and nature programs.

View our School and Group Programs page to see our Zoo to You, in-person and virtual program options.

[View Programs](#)

Stop by and visit us soon!

The zoo is open July 4th to 31st. Free children's admission, but admission tickets are required for all of visiting hours.

ADMISSION

100% of the admission fee is donated to the Wheaton Park District's Animal Care Program. Admission is free for all children 12 and under.

Cosley Zoo

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

Spice Up Your Fall Season With a Pumpkin Fest Visit

Wheaton Park District's Pumpkin Fest, with children's carnival rides, is a fun-filled event for the whole family. Pumpkin Fest is a fun-filled event for the whole family. Pumpkin Fest is a fun-filled event for the whole family.

Become a Member

Join our family of members today. We offer a variety of membership options to suit your needs. Become a member today.

Club Care Adoptions Also Available!

Adopting an animal provides a special way for you to be a part of Cosley Zoo and our mission.

Questions?

Call 630-665-9534

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

Cosley Zoo Holiday Membership Sale

This holiday season, we are offering special holiday memberships. For only \$10 more, you'll receive an additional three months of membership along with a Cosley Zoo member ornament.

Become a Member

Join our family of members today. We offer a variety of membership options to suit your needs. Become a member today.

Club Care Adoptions Also Available!

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Questions?

Call 630-665-9534

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

Let the Festival of Lights Illuminate Your Holiday Season

Cosley Zoo Christmas Tree Sale Features First Prices

Whether it's for family holiday events, the day after Thanksgiving is the ideal time to begin searching for the perfect Christmas tree.

Become a Member

Join our family of members today. We offer a variety of membership options to suit your needs. Become a member today.

Club Care Adoptions Also Available!

Adopting an animal provides a special way for you to be a part of Cosley Zoo and our mission.

Questions?

Call 630-665-9534

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

Wheaton Park District's Cosley Zoo Maintains AZA Accreditation

Wheaton Park District's Cosley Zoo has been awarded AZA Accreditation, a recognition of the highest quality in the animal care industry.

ADMISSION

100% of the admission fee is donated to the Wheaton Park District's Animal Care Program. Admission is free for all children 12 and under.

Cosley Zoo

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

DONATIONS DOUBLED!

It's not too late to double your donation!

Wheaton Park District's Cosley Zoo has been awarded AZA Accreditation, a recognition of the highest quality in the animal care industry.

ADMISSION

100% of the admission fee is donated to the Wheaton Park District's Animal Care Program. Admission is free for all children 12 and under.

Cosley Zoo

create discover play.

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Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

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Cosley Zoo

create discover play.

You're Invited

Cocktails & Conversation with Cosley Zoo

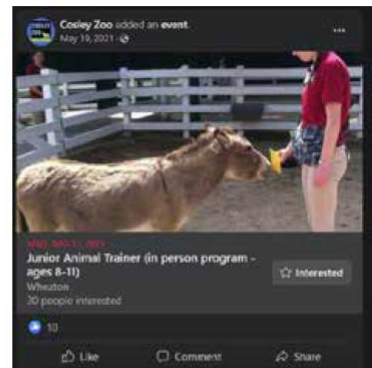
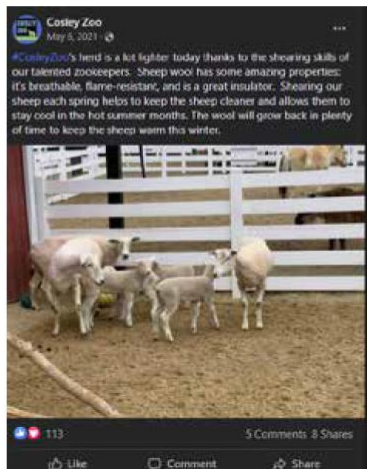
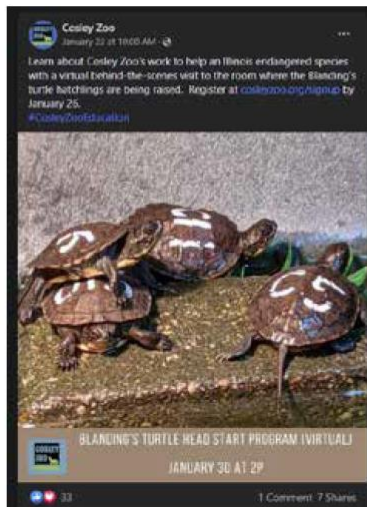
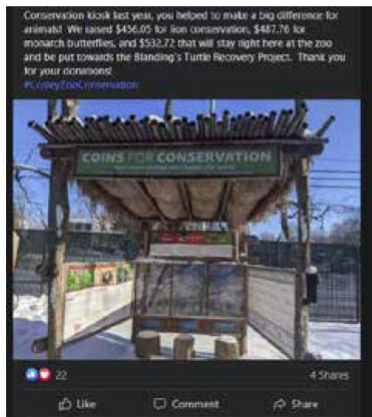
Thursday, October 28 | 5-7 PM

ADMISSION

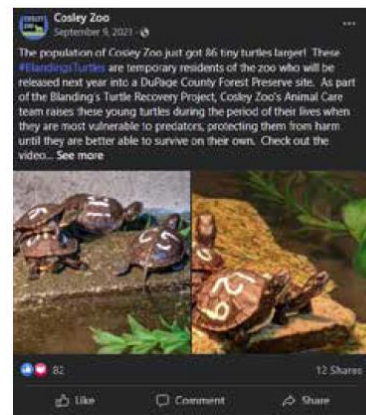
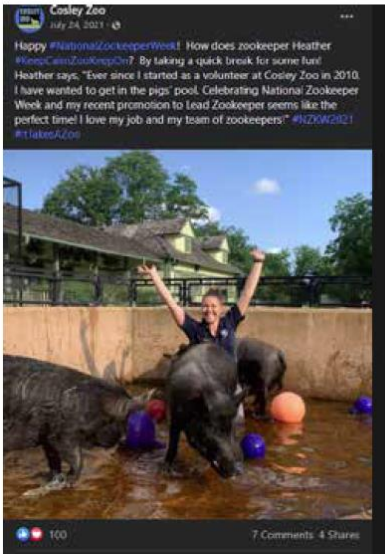
100% of the admission fee is donated to the Wheaton Park District's Animal Care Program. Admission is free for all children 12 and under.

Cosley Zoo

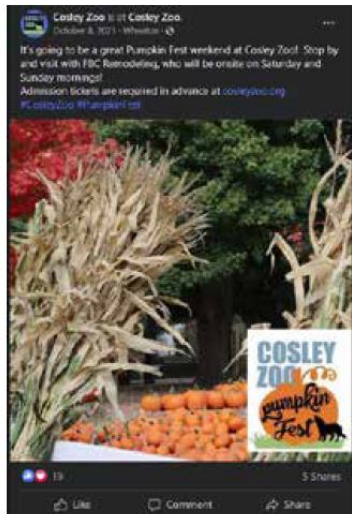
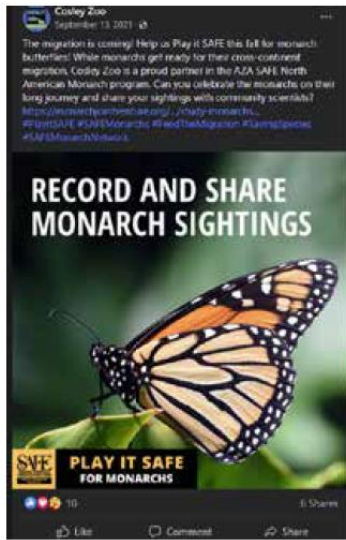
Social Media



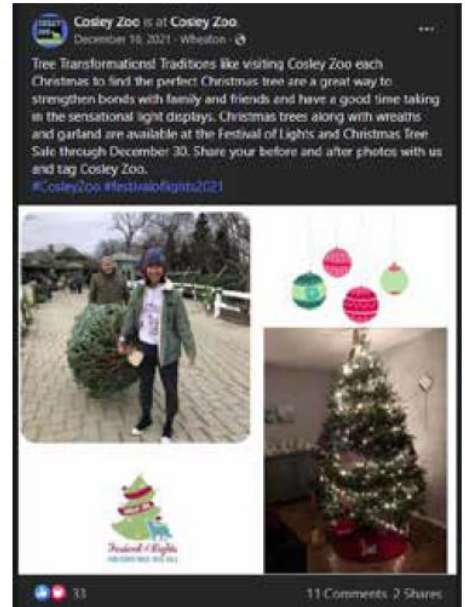
Social Media

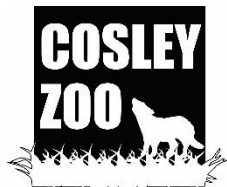


Social Media



Social Media





ACCREDITED BY THE
**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**