Our drive thru parks remain open however our walk-about areas are temporarily closed. The safety of our park, our staff, and the animals they care for is, as always, of paramount importance.

We are following the current CDC and prevention guidelines and recommendations by encouraging staff and guest to stay home if unwell, emphasizing respiratory etiquette and hygiene, and routinely cleaning all surfaces.

In response to several inquiries about why and how the wildlife parks remain open during this time of coronavirus panic, while other zoos have closed, please read the following:

**What is the difference between a “typical” zoo and a drive-through wildlife/safari park?**

In a typical zoo, guests are allowed to roam freely on the grounds and come into contact with everybody there. People may cluster around popular exhibits, gather at food courts, or intermingle with hundreds of other guests. Normally, this is not a problem and can be part of the fun of the visit.

In the drive-through parks, you can remain in your own personal vehicle. You are not interacting with any other people but the ones you brought with you!

**How can the wildlife parks remain open?**

We have been classified as Outdoor Recreation and have been deemed safe to visit. Outdoor Recreation is much like a state park, only safer, as we can be certain to offer minimal, to no, interactions with others.

**What are our parks doing?**

We currently operate three (3) parks in 3 different states. One is a typical walk-about style zoo, and the other two are drive-through wildlife parks.

Our zoo in Gulf Breeze, FL (Gulf Breeze Zoo), which is the typical walk-about zoo, has been temporarily closed as we follow the guidelines for social distancing. That zoo, as well as all other more typical zoos around the country, could not comfortably follow the national guidelines and remain open.

Our drive-through wildlife parks, located in VA (Virginia Safari Park) and ALA (Alabama Safari Park), are much different. They allow all customers to purchase tickets, visit, observe, and enjoy the animals without encountering anyone but the one person taking admissions. You remain in your own personal vehicle for the entire visit. We have streamlined the process to strictly adhere to national and state guidelines for the safety of any coronavirus transmission.

**What other precautions are you taking?**

Both of our safari parks have temporarily closed off their walk-about (more like a typical zoo) area as well as any food courts.

**Are there other drive-through wildlife parks open?**

Currently, there are several drive-through animal parks in the US (in AL, FL, GA, MO, MS, NC, NE, OR, TN, TX, VA) that have remained open, and provide a service to people who want to get out and safely enjoy an outing. Just as national and state parks do, we all offer our guests a respite from the constant onslaught of troubling news.

**Who will I come into contact with at the parks?**

Our parks are set up so that your only interaction is with one person at the admissions booth. Tickets can be purchased on-line. This process is much safer than when you go out and shop for groceries or do other necessary tasks.

**Is it safe to come into contact with animals at the park?**

According to the CDC, “At this time, there is no evidence that the virus that causes COVID-19 can spread to people from the skin or fur of pets.” You can find this directly on this website link: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html)

For any person who is still worried, you can still enjoy the park by leaving your windows closed and slowly meandering along the roadways to observe the animals. Your admission ticket is good all day! Take several trips through and you will see something new each time you do.

For all these reasons, we hope that, if you do decide to get out and safely take a trip, you will visit a drive-through safari park and enjoy a great day. Nothing eases tensions like observing animals roaming freely on large open-air ranges. Be well.