

# SENSORY-FRIENDLY TIP SHEET

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to Conner Prairie! The indoor Welcome Center is open year-round; the outdoor historic areas are open March-October. See the [hours and admissions webpage](#) for the schedule. Preparing for your visit beforehand can help make your time with us more enjoyable. The following tips will help you in your planning.

- There is a [CONNER PRAIRIE FUN GUIDE](#) that you can download, print, and share as you prepare for your visit.
- FREE PARKING is available in front of the Welcome Center. There is handicapped parking available in the first row nearest the main entrance.
- ENTER the building through the main doors. As you come into the Great Hall, the Conner Prairie Store will be directly in front of you. The TICKET DESK will be to your right. The MEMBER DESK will be to your left.
- The Great Hall is large and can be noisy if crowded. There may also be a line to purchase tickets.
  - **TIP:** *Feel free to send one person in first to purchase tickets and get stickers for everyone in your group, so that you can quickly move through the Great Hall to the exhibits or outside.*
- The ACCESS PASS is available for \$2 per person per visit for families who participate in state assistance programs. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Soft foam EAR PLUGS are available at the Ticket Desk, as well as a copy of the SENSORY-FRIENDLY MAP – just ask.
- WAGONS, STROLLERS and WHEELCHAIRS are available at the Ticket Desk on a first come, first served basis. Wagons and strollers are \$5. There is no charge for wheelchairs.
- ADMISSION STICKERS must be worn.
  - **TIP:** *You may put the sticker on the back of someone who does not like to wear a sticker.*
  - The ADMISSION STICKER is good for the whole day and allows you to leave the building and return, if necessary.
- There are four QUIET SPOTS with sensory kits located throughout the grounds, in case someone needs a calming break—see [Accessibility Map & Information](#). Look for signs on the doors or ask any staff member where the nearest Quiet Spot is located.

QUIET SPOTS SPONSORED BY



- Single RESTROOMS are located in the Welcome Center's Quiet Spot and also in the River Crossing Play Area. Multiple-stall male and female restrooms are located in the Welcome Center and throughout the grounds.

- OPEN FOOD and DRINKS are not allowed in the exhibit spaces or in the historic buildings. You may eat at Cafe on the Commons (seasonal) or at picnic tables located throughout the grounds (seasonal) or at the tables in the Great Hall (when outdoor grounds are closed). You can purchase food at Cafe on the Commons or bring your own.
  - **TIP:** *There are several drinking fountains on the grounds, but you may want to bring a water bottle with a tight-fitting cap to have with you throughout the day.*
- Some historic buildings are not accessible to WHEELCHAIRS. Large STROLLERS and WAGONS are not permitted inside historic buildings.
- Outdoor paths are unpaved, uneven and may be wet or muddy.
  - **TIP:** *Closed-toe, sturdy shoes may be more comfortable to those who do not like getting rocks and dirt on their toes.*
- The TRAM leaves from Clowes Commons to Civil War Journey/River Crossing Play Area on the hour and half hour, and from Civil War Journey/River Crossing back to Clowes Commons on the quarter hours. It is wheelchair accessible.
- The water play area at River Crossing is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Children not yet toilet-trained are required to wear a swim diaper. These are available at no cost at River Crossing.
- Children under the age of 16 MUST be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- FARM ANIMALS are fun to look at, but should not be petted unless staff is present and permits it. The exception is at the Animal Encounters barn where animals roam more freely.
- Be aware that there are OPEN FIRES in various historic buildings.
- There may be occasional black powder rifle demonstrations at Civil War Journey and Lenape Indian Camp. You can ask the staff when these take place if you wish to avoid sudden loud noises.
- On a busy day, the indoor exhibit areas and Animal Encounters may be crowded and noisy. The outdoor areas may be more enjoyable to those with sensory differences, especially the various gardens, the Nature Walk (**TIP:** *use the restroom before you walk to the observation platform, since there is no restroom there or along the trail*) and the open spaces in Prairietown, Lenape and Civil War Journey.
  - **TIP:** *Times that are less busy include:*
    - *Sunday mornings from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., unless it is a special event weekend.*
    - *After 2 p.m. on weekdays when school is in session (April-May and September-October) unless it is a break time such as spring or fall breaks.*
    - *Right after school starts in August through the end of August.*

Conner Prairie STAFF are trained in working with people of all abilities. Please don't hesitate to ask should you have questions or needs.