

## Feeding Schedule

### **Dangerous: Carnivores**

Animals will be fed twice a week to keep them full and reduce the risk of them killing and eating other free ranging animals. The larger carnivores will be fed whole cow carcasses once a week, and live sheep once a week. The live sheep are for demonstration of how dangerous they can be and also their different hunting techniques. The live sheep are also used for animal enrichment, which keeps them from getting bored. Live and dead animals should be lowered down into the enclosure.

### **Dangerous: Herbivores**

Animals will be fed every day and have access to foraging areas in order to mimic natural conditions. They should have large areas to roam, or be rotated from pasture to pasture in order to prevent overgrazing and destruction of native flora. They will be fed a mixture of pelleted alfalfa and leafy tree branches, while also having access to mineral and salt blocks. Any special dietary needs will be taken into account and different procedures will be developed for the specific needs of the individual.

### **Mild: Carnivores**

Animals will be fed three times a week in order to keep them happy and prevent the death of other free ranging animals. These animals are most likely smaller than Dangerous Carnivores and will be fed a mixture of dead cows, dead sheep, and live sheep. Live sheep are for animal enrichment, but if the animals are seen unable to consume whole adult sheep then younger sheep will be used instead. This will prevent squabbles among different species for left over carcasses.

**Mild: Herbivores**

Feeding for these animals will follow the same procedure as that for Dangerous Herbivores, but may require different quantities of pellets and nutritional needs depending on size.

**Safe: Carnivores**

Animals will be fed three times a week in order to keep them satisfied and reduce risk of injury to their caretakers. These are likely the smallest of the carnivores and will be fed a combination of dead cow parts, dead sheep, and live rats or small sheep depending on the size of the individual animal. These animals may be hand fed the dead cow or sheep, but only through a fence. Never feed animals without a barrier between the feeder and the animal.

**Petting Zoo**

Due to the variety of animals in the petting zoo species specific feeding plans will be developed for each individual animal. Birds in the aviary will be fed their natural diets, be it fruit, vegetation, insects, or fish. A combination of these may be necessary for many species. The aviary animals will be fed every day and provided with animal enrichment options. Herbivores will follow the procedures set in place for all other herbivores depending on the size of individuals. Extra treats will be available at certain times for guest to give the dwarf elephants. Any carnivores present in the petting zoo will be fed small meals every day for the safety of handlers and guest. This reduces the likelihood that anyone will get attacked. Horseshoe crabs and stingrays will have special premade diets and will be fed medium sized

meals three times a week to imitate natural feeding. Jaws will only be fed large meals (i.e. cow carcasses) once a week.

Armed personnel will be present during any and all feeding operations for the safety of the animal handlers. Special feeding instructions must be followed for all petting zoo animals to ensure guest safety.