



MYSTIC
AQUARIUM
INSTITUTE FOR
EXPLORATION

2009 – 2010 Mystic Aquarium Overnight Expectations

We are so excited that your group has decided to join us for an overnight adventure in our fabulous underwater world. Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration is a living museum, and your group will have the unique opportunity to sleep amongst our animals and their homes. We expect the utmost respect from our slumber-party guests towards our collection of animals. With this in mind, we look forward to sharing a great night with you and your group! There's no doubt that all will leave with lasting memories of this experience.

AS A CHAPERONE, we ask for your assistance in enforcing the following guidelines, during the overnight, with each participant. While our staff is responsible for providing an unforgettable overnight experience, **you** are responsible for insuring appropriate behavior and involvement from your participants. We appreciate your commitment to this educational event.

Overnight Guidelines – Please inform groups of these “rules” prior to their event.

- Follow staff instructions at all times
- Refrain from putting hands or objects in exhibits, or tapping on the glass
- Please use indoor voices, yelling and loud talking is not necessary
- Clean-up materials and personal belongings during your stay
- Understand that “lights out” means sleep
- Do not bring video games, walkmans, or any other distracting devices
- There is no smoking or chewing gum and alcohol is prohibited while at the aquarium
- Please do not climb on rocks, walls, or benches
- Do not run, or skate while at the Aquarium
- We ask that no one bring their own food or beverages into the Aquarium. A light evening snack and continental breakfast will be provided. *Exception: Participants with specific food allergies or requirements please feel free to bring what you will need.*
- Do not leave the Aquarium main building or front gates without a staff member
- **Dinner will not be served. Please eat prior to arrival. Snack will be served between 7:00pm and 7:30pm.**
- **Chaperones must remain with their group during each activity, providing assistance when necessary.**

OVER PLEASE

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR VISIT:

1. Please be sure that your group eats dinner prior to their arrival. We will provide a light evening snack between 7:00pm – 7:30pm and a continental breakfast.
2. Groups must remove all belongings from the Aquarium by 8:30 am following the overnight, in order for the facility to open to the public at 9:00 am.
3. Upon leaving at 8:30 am, group members will receive a hand stamp that entitles them to unlimited re-entry that day.
4. During your stay, groups will use the indoor public restrooms. Sorry – no showers in the morning.
5. Should an emergency occur, Mystic Aquarium Staff are well-practiced with the facility's medical and evacuation plan and procedures.
6. Additional Fee Activities: The Mystic Aquarium Gift Shop will be open at 8:00 am the following morning, Sharp Shooter is available with photo magnets (2/\$7.00) at 8:00am, and Dig It (\$6.00 fee) is open at 11:00am.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE AQUARIUM

1. Please park your vehicles in the main parking lot (Coogan Blvd).
2. **Doors will open at 7:00 pm.** Your entire group needs to arrive prior to this time in order to facilitate the check in process. Please have everyone enter together.
3. Aquarium doors are locked at night. Early-birds and late comers may find themselves out in the cold. If you arrive after check-in time, please call 860-572-5955 ext 425. We will come let you in as soon as someone is available.
4. Since your group will have pre-paid for the event, no exchange of money will take place at the door.

FEES – REFUNDS – CANCELLATIONS

- * Participants will be registering through their council. Minimum chaperone ratios are as follows (Kids ages 8 –12 require a 1:5 adult to child ratio, Kids ages 13-17 require a 1:8 adult to child ratio).
- * A minimum of 75 and a maximum of 150 participants can be accommodated, including chaperones.
- * A non-refundable deposit and headcount is due to the Aquarium from the council within 30 days of booking a date.
- * **One final group headcount and one full group payment is due to the Aquarium from the council no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled overnight.**
- * Inside 30 days, no refunds will be given for group cancellation or for individual no-shows. We encourage finding replacements for kids who may be sick or unable to attend.

HOW TO FIND US

**We are conveniently located off of Interstate 95 at Exit 90 (Mystic).
55 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT 06355**