

## CPZ's/NYZS-WCS's Admission Policy Breaches New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law	Current Admissions Policy
<p>See: Section 1 of <a href="#">Chapter 383 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1991</a> amended Section 8 of <a href="#">Chapter 435 of the Laws of the State of New York 1895</a> and <a href="#">Chapter 924 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1969</a>, also amended Chapter Section 8 of Chapter 435. Section 1 of Chapter 383 amended Section 8 of Chapter 435 and Chapter 924 as follows:</p> <p>“Sec. 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least three days in each week ...”</p> <p>Amending “Sec. 1. ... Section 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [ three days ] <i>one day</i> in each week ...”</p> <p>Chapter 383 again amended Section 8 of Chapter 435 in Section 2 as follows:</p> <p>Amending Sec. 2 .. “Section 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [ one day ] <i>three days</i> in each week ...</p> <p>Sec. 3. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that section two of this act shall take effect July 1, 1994.”</p> <p><a href="#">Chapter 924 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1969</a></p> <p>“Sec. 8. ... Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [four] <i>three</i> days in each week, subject to such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by said corporation” [<i>italics in original</i>].</p> <p>NOTE ONE: Chapter 924 amends free admission from four to three days. Three days was unamended by Chapter 383 of 1991.</p> <p><a href="#">Chapter 435 of the Laws of the State of New York 1895</a></p>	<p>See: <a href="#">Tickets/Visit</a></p> <p>CPZ/NYZS-WCS admits members free and charges different amount mandatory price admission fees to adults ages 13 and up, children ages three to 12 and seniors ages 65+.</p>

"Sec. 8. Admission to the said garden shall be free to the public for **at least four days, one of which shall be Sunday, in each week ...**"

[emphasis added]

NOTE TWO: In response to FA's Freedom of Information Law [FOIL] requests, DPR produced a [November](#) and [December](#) 2010 letters from **Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe** [letter was not on DPR letterhead] replying to a constituent's letter complaining to Mayor Bloomberg about the high price of Central Park Zoo tickets. Commissioner Benepe wrote that **"the City sets the pricing at all of the City zoos [and New York Aquarium],"** working **"very closely with the Wildlife Conservation Society [noting that] the city supports WCS's tradition to allow free access to the Bronx Zoo every Wednesday and to the New York Aquarium every Friday after 3pm ..."** **Benepe's acknowledgement and approval of limited free access hours are a clear disavowal of New York State law providing free access to New Yorkers "three days" in a week.**

NOTE THREE. Despite mention in Anderson's 6/17/1988 *New York Time* article entitled, ["Zoo's Animals Prepare To Meet Their Public,"](#) research did not find that CPZ/NYCS-WCS admission fees were paid "directly to the City." [see H. 14. In **LIST OF REFERENCES - CPZ/NYCS-WCS** below.]

**Because NYCS-WCS continues to operate under the NYCS corporate name, it should be required to meet the provisions of Chapter 435 as amended by Chapter 383 regarding admission provisions. BZ/NYCS-WCS violates New York State law because it [1] Denies New Yorkers free access "at least three days in each week."**

**Mindful that the NYCS-WCS entities are owned by New York City through DPR, it is offensive that New Yorkers are consciously deprived of our right to free access.** Free access to the PEC institutions is unique to New Yorkers and is provided for in the laws and contracts applicable to the PPP structure. Stewards of PEC institutions may choose to charge an admission fee to other visitors.