

March 16, 2020

Dear Furry Weekend Family,

It is with a heavy heart that we must inform you that Furry Weekend Atlanta 2020 has been canceled in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Our Board of Directors and Convention Leadership have been closely monitoring the rapidly evolving situation while considering the possible options, and the decision to cancel was not made lightly. We are following the guidance on large events provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) to ensure the health and safety of all our attendees, volunteers, and staff. Additionally, we feel this is the best course of action for the health of our friends, families, and the community at large.

What does that mean for Furry Weekend Atlanta:

Furry Weekend Atlanta is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. We are able to operate thanks to the support and contributions of our members. When you register and support FWA, you are directly helping us make each year better than ever.

The cancelation of FWA 2020 has many financial consequences that are out of our direct control. We do not have the same funding and budgets as many larger organizations, and this decision puts us into a position of financial strain. Our leadership is working diligently with all of our contractual obligations to minimize impact, but the exact cost is currently unknown.

For the time being, Furry Weekend Atlanta has suspended all non-mandatory expenses. If you would like to make a donation to support our organization, please feel free to do so here: <u>https://reg.myfwa.com/donate</u>. You can donate directly to our charity, Animal Park, here: <u>https://animalparknc.org/donate/</u>.

What happens to my FWA 2020 registration?

We will be adding the ability for pre-registrations to be voluntarily donated to the event in the coming days. This will allow us to determine the best course moving forward and to release funds for our charity who needs all of the support that we can offer.

While our registration policy does not allow refunds past the close of early-bird registration, we are working diligently to determine options for anyone who is already registered, given the extraordinary circumstances that we are all facing.

Furry Weekend Atlanta, Inc. | 6475 Jimmy Carter Blvd Suite 400 | Norcross, GA 30071 www.furryweekend.com



If you have any questions regarding registration, please email FWA2020@furryweekend.com.

What happens to my hotel room reservation?

The Atlanta Marriott Marquis has agreed to refund the room deposit for bookings made in our 2020 room block. We will be providing details regarding these refunds as soon as we receive confirmation from the hotel.

What happens to my flight or travel expenses?

We encourage you to modify or cancel your flights and travel itineraries as soon as possible. Due to the COVID-19 situation, many airlines are allowing customers to change or refund their flights if changes are made before a certain date.

What about the future of Furry Weekend Atlanta?

We have a long journey ahead of us, but rest assured, our directors, staff, volunteers, vendors, and many more are committed to making sure FWA returns! We will share our plans (and dates) for Furry Weekend Atlanta 2021 in the near future as we continue to explore Furry Weekend Atlanta, The Enchanted Forest.

Thank you for being understanding and positive as FWA, and many other conventions have had to adapt to current circumstances. We are all in this together, and this community never ceases to amaze us. We love you all. Stay healthy in this difficult time.

With gratitude to the amazing community that we love to serve and belong to,

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