

Buddy Bison Mascot Guide

Please review the basic guidelines for using the Buddy Bison Mascot.
Questions? Contact Aylish Flahaven at aylish@parktrust.org or call 301.279.7275

Wearing Buddy Bison:

- Buddy Bison loves to dance, skip, and high-five, **but he does NOT talk or make noise.**
- Buddy Bison must wear the provided National Park Trust t-shirt at all times. (We can't have any naked bison running around!)
- Buddy Bison must appear in full costume at all times – including the head! Even missing small pieces, such as his hooves (hands and feet), makes a big impact on Buddy's image.
- Please use the provided ice vest (in the mesh bag included in the box) when wearing the costume - it gets VERY warm! Remember to freeze the ice packs at least 24 hours before your event.
- Buddy Bison loves to be photographed - but only when he is in full costume, including the provided National Park Trust Buddy Bison t-shirt. Please share photos and media with us (see below).
- Secure a private dressing room for putting on and taking off the costume. Keep the costume out of sight before and after use.

Handling Buddy Bison:

- One person from your organization must accompany Buddy Bison and act as his handler the entire time he is present at your event.
- Buddy's handler is responsible for introducing him as the mascot of National Park Trust, a national parks non-profit whose mission is "preserving parks today, creating park stewards for tomorrow."
- It is very difficult for the person wearing the Buddy Bison costume to see their surroundings clearly. The handler should alert Buddy to any uneven surfaces or obstructions in his path and guide him at the elbow so he does not trip or bump into anything.



- **Very important: Buddy's handler is responsible for ensuring that no child is overlooked by him.** Since Buddy has limited visibility, the handler should alert Buddy when there is a child who wants a high-five or a wave, and help guide Buddy to the child.

Caring for the costume during and after use:

- Please use care when wearing the costume (i.e. be gentle when putting on and taking off). The costume and head are fragile so please avoid banging, dropping, or aggressive use.
- Buddy Bison's head is made of papier-mâché and **cannot get wet** – bison don't like the rain!
- Please air out the costume and head before shipping it back to us. The papier-mâché head can peel if not aired adequately.
- The costume **MUST** be shipped back to the Park Trust's office address using the plastic box that it arrived in.

Sharing photos and stories:

- You can email photos and stories to aylish@parktrust.org.
- Connect with us on social media to share your adventures and tell a story with Buddy:
 - **Twitter** - [@NatParkTrust](https://twitter.com/NatParkTrust)
 - **Facebook** - [National Park Trust](https://www.facebook.com/NationalParkTrust)
 - **Instagram** - [@NationalParkTrust](https://www.instagram.com/NationalParkTrust)
- Use the hashtags - **#BuddyBison** and **#NationalParkTrust**
- Only take photos of Buddy Bison if the wearer has on the complete costume. If pieces are missing, the effect is lost.
- National Park Trust reserves the right to require the removal of any photos that do not follow the above guidelines.