

Molbak's Butterfly Garden press preview June 30 *Woodland Park Zoo opens new home for butterflies to take flight*



WHAT: Woodland Park Zoo is excited to announce the grand opening of **Molbak's Butterfly Garden**. Press is invited to preview the new exhibit **Thursday, June 30, at 11:30 a.m.** The new home for butterflies to take flight will open to the public **Saturday, July 2.**

Take a walk through the Pacific Northwest's gardens and engage with native North American butterflies in the immersive Butterfly Garden. The zoo's newest exhibit emphasizes both the fragility and resilience of nature through the display of what many consider to be among the most beautiful of natural expressions: butterflies and flowers.

An arching tent structure encloses a landscape of approximately 3,000 square feet, and nearly 500 free-flying butterflies representing at least 15 species native to North America. Learn about the biology, behavior and threats facing these winged beauties, and be inspired to take local and global conservation action for butterflies and other pollinators during an immersive journey through the varying habitats where these North American species are found.

Visit zoo.org/butterflygarden for more information.

WHEN: **Thursday, June 30, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Public opening: Saturday, July 2, 9:30 a.m.

Molbak's Butterfly Garden will be open daily from 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., from Saturday, July 2, through Sunday, October 2.

WHERE: Meet PR staff at the West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts. Park in the Penguin Lot at N. 55th St. & Phinney Ave. N. or Otter Lot off N. 59th St. & Phinney Ave. N. Molbak's Butterfly Garden is located next to Zoomazium.

INFO: The Butterfly Garden focuses on the life cycle and identification of North America's butterflies and on preservation and restoration of appropriate habitat for these pollinators. The exhibit will contain approximately 500 butterflies representing several species from North America.

Exhibit construction was made possible thanks to generous contributions of individuals, families, foundations and corporations throughout the Pacific Northwest, and funding from the Seattle Park District. Molbak's Garden + Home generously agreed to donate the plants and landscaping supplies that will augment the butterfly habitat and visitor experience for up to 10 years. Molbak's Butterfly Garden is free with zoo admission.

Name a Butterfly: To celebrate the opening of Butterfly Garden, the zoo is offering the opportunity to name a butterfly in its new exhibit. Anyone interested in naming a butterfly can do so by making a donation of any size to the zoo's [Annual Fund](#) now through September 2, 2016. Anyone who makes a donation and names a butterfly will receive a digital certificate—perfect for sharing or gifting—and their butterfly's name will be displayed all summer long on signage just outside the exhibit.

Name a Butterfly gifts support Woodland Park Zoo's Annual Fund, which helps sustain all operations at the zoo, including quality animal care, veterinary check-ups and procedures, engaging educational programming and vital conservation initiatives, such as the zoo's butterfly conservation lab that's working to repopulate the Oregon silverspot butterfly, a native Northwest species. To support the zoo's Annual Fund and name a butterfly, or to learn more, visit www.zoo.org/nameabutterfly.

Coloring Contest: Artists of all ages, get out your colored pencils, markers, watercolors or crayons (anything goes) and show us your most creative design. Color the [Butterfly Wings coloring page](#) using any medium(s) and any colors, then be sure to drop it off at any zoo entry, zoo membership office or ZooStore OR mail it to Woodland Park Zoo c/o MyZoo Magazine 5500 Phinney Ave N. Seattle WA 98103. Visit zoo.org/magazine for a complete list of rules and prizes.

Zoo open daily - Hours through September 30: 9:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. daily. Admission fees through September 30: Adult (13-64) \$19.95; Child (3-12) \$12.25; Free for children 2 and under year round. Active, retired, and veteran U.S. military and their families, seniors and people with disabilities are eligible to receive a discount and zoo members receive free zoo admission year round. Parking: \$6. For more information, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, award-winning Woodland Park Zoo is famed for pioneering naturalistic exhibits and

setting international standards for zoos in animal care, conservation and education programs. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future. For more information, visit www.zoo.org.

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