

## Spring Safari: African Wildlife Conservation Day pays tribute to zoo's African animals and conservation projects abroad

**WHAT:** Celebrate African wildlife and the conservation projects working to protect them during Woodland Park Zoo's **Spring Safari: African Wildlife Conservation Day**. Hosted by the zoo, this full day of activities focuses on migration patterns of African animals, educational keeper talks, and special enrichment sessions to heighten awareness about issues such as illegal poaching and habitat loss, and how your choices and actions can help save giraffe, lions, gorillas and other critical African animals.



Kick off the day with a fun, educational Migration March around the African Savanna trail at the zoo. Kids participating in the march will have the opportunity to choose their migration animal as well as make various stops at migration stations to learn about the migration patterns of African animals. Each migration station will require kids to use their skills and senses to find food, water and a migration buddy.

The Migration March will kick off with three official starts at 9:35, 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome to partake in the Migration March anytime throughout Spring Safari, even after the official starts have occurred. The migration stations will remain open to visitors all day. Registration is not required for the Migration March.

Spring Safari will also feature keeper talks and enrichment for some of the zoo's African animals as well as kids' crafts, coloring activities and upapi (Swahili for "beading"). Visitors who partake in upapi will have the opportunity to learn how beading has strong cultural ties in Africa and its significance to indigenous peoples, and make their own beaded bracelet!

Every upapi bracelet purchased will receive one BeadforLife bead. Additional BeadforLife beads will be available for purchase. BeadforLife is an organization that provides women living in poverty with entrepreneurial training that gives them the skills and confidence to transform their lives through the creation of a self-sustaining business. Unlike a typical fair trade model, these women graduate from the program as independent business owners. Learn more about BeadforLife [here](#).

Zoomazium, the zoo's indoor, nature play space, will feature themed programming for younger kids including an African-inspired story and animal guest at Creature Feature (10:30 a.m.) and a toddler dance party featuring music from African and other global beats at Shake, Rattle and Roar (11:30 a.m.).

To top off all of the fun activities, Spring Safari visitors can also enter to win a limited edition African wild dog print and an African gift bag by visiting the conservation table at African Village!

Woodland Park Zoo has partnered with **ECO-CELL**, a company which reimburses organizations for collecting used handheld electronics, batteries and accessories. **ECO-CELL** runs a strict **NO LANDFILL** program. All items received by **ECO-CELL**, including [batteries](#), accessories and cell [phones](#) that cannot be reused, will be recycled using the best demonstrated technologies for recycling e-waste. Reusing phones and other handheld electronics helps reduce the demand for Coltan, an ore used in phones and other electronic devices. Coltan is mined primarily in the Democratic Republic of the Congo where habitat critical for the survival of endangered species, including the eastern lowland gorilla, is being destroyed. Starting on Spring Safari day, visitors can bring used handheld electronics (cell phones, MP3 players, handheld games, e-readers, digital still and video cameras, laptops, GPS, portable hard drives, etc.) to the zoo. Woodland Park Zoo will use funds from Eco-Cell toward the [Mbeli Bai Gorilla Project](#).

**WHEN:** **Saturday, April 8, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Locations and times of activities will be posted at the zoo entrances, or download the Woodland Park Zoo mobile app for activity times and locations.

**9:35:** Migration March, official start (1)

**10:00:** Migration March, official start (2)

**10:00:** Lion feed (carcass)

**10:30:** Migration March, official start (3)

**11:30:** Hippo talk with enrichment

**12:30:** Gorilla talk with zookeeper

**1:00:** Lion talk with zookeeper

**1:30:** Giraffe Experience

**3:00:** Gorilla talk with zookeeper

**INFO:** Zoo hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily through April 30. Zoo admission April 1 through September 30: Adult (13-64) \$20.95; Child (3-12) \$12.95; Toddler (0-2) Free. Active, retired, and veteran U.S. military and their families, seniors and people with physical disabilities receive an admission discount. Zoo members receive free zoo admission year round.

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the zoo for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco.

Mobile app: Search for the free Woodland Park Zoo mobile app for iPhone, iPad or Android in your app store. Use it to track your location on zoo grounds with GPS, discover more about animals and daily zoo activities, and share the highlights of your visit with friends.

Parking: \$6. Consider taking the bus, biking, walking or carpooling. Conserving resources is one more way of helping the animals. For bus service to the zoo, visit [www.metro.kingcounty.gov](http://www.metro.kingcounty.gov).

Gifts/Food: Explore the ZooStores for unique gifts and souvenirs and the Rain Forest Food Pavilion to quench your thirst and appetite.

For more information about the zoo and how to become a zoo member, visit [www.zoo.org](http://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 through more than 35 field projects 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 ecological health and sustainability. Free Wi-Fi is available for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco. For more information, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org).

###