

## Woodland Park Zoo celebrates Earth Day

**WHAT:**

Do you ever wonder what life would be like without nature? Do you ever wonder what nature would be like without us? Earth Day is an invitation to celebrate nature and all it does for us, but also serves as a powerful reminder that we must return the favor by protecting the very things nature provides. By bringing people together on Earth Day, we pledge to protect our planet and unite to become a stronger force for nature. On Earth Day, Woodland Park Zoo invites the community to be advocates for our planet with action opportunities throughout the zoo including:

- Make a personal pledge to take actions to protect endangered species by signing or making a hand-written comment directly onto animal cut-outs located at several exhibits around the zoo.
- Participate in the zoo's new ECO-CELL recycle program by dropping off used handheld electronics at the zoo to be refurbished or recycled by ECO-CELL.
- Sign an oversized card for a few of our Congress members to thank them for their commitment to the planet as they work on legislation in Washington, D.C.
- Take home a biodegradable coaster embedded with non-invasive seeds that can be planted into a garden or pot, germinating later into beautiful flowers.

**WHEN:**

**Saturday, April 22, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Locations of action opportunities will be posted at the zoo entrances.

**INFO:**

Anyone who visits the zoo on Earth Day will have the opportunity to learn about the zoo's most endangered species, and how everyone can take small actions to pull them back from the brink of extinction. Large animal cut-outs will be displayed at the exhibits of grizzly bears, tigers, gorillas, penguins and frogs. Zoo volunteers will be at these exhibits talking with people about the importance of these species to the entire ecosystem and even to human health. Guests will have the opportunity to make a personal pledge to take actions to protect these endangered animals by signing or making a hand-written comment directly on the cut-outs.

Visitors can go one step further in their pledge to protect the planet by participating in the zoo's new ECO-CELL recycle program. Woodland Park Zoo has partnered with ECO-CELL, a company which reimburses organizations for collecting used handheld electronics and accessories. ECO-CELL runs a strict *NO LANDFILL* program. All



items received by ECO-CELL, including accessories and cell [phones](#) that cannot be reused, will be recycled using the best demonstrated technologies for recycling e-waste. On Earth 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 and drop them off at the ECO-CELL stations located just inside the West and South Entrances. Woodland Park Zoo will use funds from Eco-Cell toward the [Mbeli Bai Gorilla Project](#) and other African conservation programs.

In gratitude for their pro-environmental platform, visitors will also have the opportunity to sign an oversized card for a few of our Congress members to thank them for their commitment to the planet as they work on legislation in Washington, D.C. Once decorated and filled with words of encouragement, these large cards will be delivered to the local offices of Congress members.

Visitors will leave the zoo on Earth Day with a small memento of their visit: a biodegradable coaster embedded with non-invasive seeds that can be planted into a garden or pot, germinating later into beautiful flowers. A noxious weeds guide will also be offered to guests so they know what not to plant this spring.

Hands can destroy or they can rebuild. Technology can pollute or it can purify. We can stand by or we can stand up. There is no back-up plan for our beautiful blue planet; stand by Woodland Park Zoo and pledge to take action today to make our home sustainable for future generations of animals and people.

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).

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