## **Happy Bird Day!**

Celebrate all things birds with a guided early morning bird walk and fun activities at the zoo

WHAT:

In celebration of International Migratory Bird Day, spend the morning and afternoon at the zoo learning about birds. Begin the day with a guided tour of zoo grounds with a keeper to learn firsthand about the wild birds that call Woodland Park Zoo home, and those that make it a temporary home during their annual migration. Zookeepers and expert staff will be the guides, giving natural history and birding tips to participants of all ages and levels of experience.

Throughout the day, guests can enjoy fun activities including a scavenger hunt, shade-grown, eco-friendly coffee sampling from Caffe Vita, zoo docent carts with bird focused educational materials, and a bird information and education booth hosted by Seattle Audubon.

In addition to the on-grounds activities, the zoo will host a Science in the Outdoors: Birds workshop most appropriate for teachers of grades 4-8. Advanced registration for the teacher workshop is required.

WHEN: Saturday, May 20, 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

> Early morning bird walk: 7:00-9:00 a.m. On-grounds activities: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Science in the Outdoors: Birds: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

WHERE: The early morning bird walk departs from the zoo's West Entrance located

at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55<sup>th</sup> & N. 56<sup>th</sup> Sts. Happy Bird Day activities

takes place on Woodland Park Zoo grounds.

COST: The early morning bird walk and on-grounds activities are free with zoo admission, but registration is required to reserve a space for the early

morning bird walk. To reserve a space, click here. Participants must

register before May 20.

Zoo admission, April 1–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 disabilities receive an admission discount.

Zoo members receive free zoo admission year round.

The Science in the Outdoors: Birds workshop is \$72; workshop fee covers zoo admission, materials and snacks. Registration is required for the Science in the Outdoors: Birds workshop, Registration is due Monday, May 15. To

register, click here.

INFO: International Migratory Bird Day highlights the migration of nearly 350 bird

species between nesting habitats in North America and non-breeding grounds in South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. Many think of migratory birds as symbolic harbingers of spring and melodious songsters of the woods, but migratory birds are also an important economic



resource, controlling insect pests and generating billions in recreational dollars. Unfortunately, research has shown that many migratory bird populations are in decline, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter habitats. Thus, International Migratory Bird Day, in addition to being a day to foster appreciation, is a call to action.

Visitors who attend Happy Bird Day can come early to partake in the early morning bird walk, attend the all-day Science in the Outdoors: Birds workshop or simply come when the zoo opens to enjoy the fun, educational activities and birding information courtesy of Seattle Audubon and Woodland Park Zoo.

Participants of the early morning bird walk will enjoy a guided tour from Woodland Park Zoo keepers and expert staff who will give natural history and birding tips to participants of all ages and levels of experience. The walk will last approximately two hours and will finish off with a special up-close experience with one of Woodland Park Zoo's resident birds. Then, all participants are welcome to stay at the zoo to enjoy the rest of the day. Please bring binoculars and weather-appropriate clothing. Breakfast snack bars from KIND and bird-safe, shade-grown Caffe Vita coffee will be available at the conclusion of the morning walk. Reservations are required.

Participants of the Science in the Outdoors: Birds workshop will explore the physical and behavioral characteristics of birds of the Pacific Northwest and from biomes around the world. The course will illustrate the threats birds face in the wild and how conservation programs are working to ensure their survival. Ideas will be provided for engaging students in learning about birds, in the classroom and in the outdoors, while meeting state learning standards for life science. Participants will practice scientific field methods for observing and identifying birds, and will learn how to participate in programs to monitor birds found in local habitats.

Summer zoo hours, May 1-September 30: 9:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. daily. 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 <a href="www.metro.kingcounty.gov">www.metro.kingcounty.gov</a>. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the zoo for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco. 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. For more information about the zoo and how to become a zoo member, visit <a href="www.zoo.org">www.zoo.org</a> 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.

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