

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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Editor note: A few parking spots will be reserved for the press in the **Otter Lot**. Recommended access is entering through the Bear Lot off N. 59th St. & Phinney Ave. N. The spots will be at the north end of the Otter Lot in #s 888, 889 and 890—diagonal spaces marked with traffic cones.

Grizzly bears ransack a “backyard birthday party” Become “bear smart” at Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash



WHAT: The press is invited to the rooftop of the bear exhibit to watch Woodland Park Zoo's smart and curious grizzly bear brothers crash the aftermath of a make-believe backyard birthday party complete with a picnic table, a kiddy pool, a grill with hot dogs, cupcakes, fruit bowls and non-safe garbage cans. The demonstration is **Saturday, June 8, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.**

The mock birthday party is a part of Woodland Park Zoo's **Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash**. Experts will share valuable bear-proof tips as the bears demonstrate what goes wrong when food and garbage aren't stored properly.

WHEN: **Backyard birthday party demo: Saturday, June 8, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.**

Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash: Saturday, June 8, 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Rooftop of grizzly bear exhibit at Woodland Park Zoo's Northern Trail. Meet PR staff at the West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts.

WHO: The zoo's grizzly bear brothers, 25-year-old Keema and Denali. The bears arrived at the zoo in 1994 from Washington State University, which maintains a small collection to conduct a long-term study on bear nutrition.

INFO: Learn about the survival of bears, wolves, turtles, raptors, and other wildlife in the Pacific Northwest and what these animals need to survive in the wild, how to help keep them safe and how to coexist.

Hear talks on wolves, river otters and other animals. See the new raptor program, Flights! Camera! Action! and enjoy special kid-friendly programs. Stop by the Living Northwest conservation tent for chats with experts and up-close visits with Northwestern pond turtles. Visit Molbak's Butterfly Garden and Microsoft Pollinator Patio for tips on helping pollinators in your own backyard. Visit with conservation partners from Western Wildlife Outreach, Wolf Haven, National Parks Conservation Association, Conservation Northwest, Seattle Audubon, and Seattle Aquarium with its large inflatable orca. Watch Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and their partner Karelian bear dogs demonstrate how they train nuisance bears and cougars to avoid human contact. Visit the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife table to learn more about Washington species and see special demonstrations by K9 Officer Benny. Listen to Native American stories about animals and their connection with the other “people” who inhabit the world by artist and storyteller Roger Fernandes.

Special opportunity: Guests at Bear Affair will get to vote on a name for one of the zoo's male river otter pups and enter to win a behind-the-scenes visit with the zoo's grizzlies (to be arranged for a future date).

COST: Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash is free with zoo admission or membership. Admission through September 30: Adult (13-64) \$22.95; Child (3-12) \$13.95; 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. Parking: \$6 plus applicable state and local taxes.

INFO: For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.

Spring/summer zoo hours through September 30: 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily.

Online ticketing: Avoid lines and get your tickets in advance at www.zoo.org/visit. Discounts and coupons are not applicable for online ticket purchases.

Parking is limited. Consider taking the bus, biking, walking or carpooling. Conserving resources is one more way to help animals. The zoo offers a \$2 discount to anyone who rides the bus to the zoo. Must show proof—bus transfer or ORCA card—at ticket window. For bus service to the zoo, visit www.metro.kingcounty.gov.

Founded in 1899, Woodland Park Zoo engages more than a million visitors of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and walks of life in extraordinary experiences with animals, inspiring them to make conservation a priority in their lives. The zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats in the wild through more than 35 wildlife conservation projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Woodland Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and certified by the rigorous American Humane Conservation program. The Humane Certified™ seal of approval is another important validation of the zoo's long-standing tradition of meeting the highest standards in animal welfare. Visit www.zoo.org and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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