

PRESS ADVISORY

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Connect with nature and join the annual City Nature Challenge *Challenge begins April 28*



Northwest Trek
Wildlife Park

METRO PARKS TACOMA



WHAT: Like wildlife and wild plants? Enjoy being outdoors in nature? Interested in becoming a community scientist? Woodland Park Zoo, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, and Northwest Trek Wildlife Park invite people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities across the Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area (King, Pierce and Snohomish counties) to join the 2023 City Nature Challenge.

Everyone is encouraged to find and document what lives out their windows, in their backyard, on their windowsills, and even broader in their neighborhoods and cities. This can be done on one's own or get the kids outdoors and make it a family affair. Nature enthusiasts can also participate online by looking through and helping to identify other people's observations!

Last year hundreds of people joined the City Nature Challenge in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties: 7,705 nature observations were recorded and more than 1,200 species were identified, showing the world the incredible biodiversity in the region's home turf. That's the region's all-time record!

HOW: Experience is not required to participate—it's easy, fun and simple! Just download the free [iNaturalist app](#) or access it on a computer; get outside, snap photos of wild plants, animals and fungi and upload these observations to iNaturalist. All observations made during the observation period of April 28 to May 1 will automatically be added to the [2023 City Nature Challenge Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area iNaturalist project](#). Visit that page to see how many observations your neighbors and you are making and to help identify those neat findings!

WHEN: City Nature Challenge will take place in two parts:
Observe!
April 28–May 1
Take and upload pictures of wild plants and animals

Identify!
April 28–May 7
Help identify what was found

INFO: For more information about the 2023 City Nature Challenge, go to <https://www.zoo.org/conservation/naturechallenge> <https://www.pdza.org/event/city-nature-challenge/> or <https://www.nwtrek.org/event/city-nature-challenge/>

For more information about iNaturalist, go to [inaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org).

City Nature Challenge is a global community science challenge which encourages people to find, record, and identify wild plants, animals and other living things within an area in a set amount of time. City Nature Challenge is organized on a global scale by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and the California Academy of Sciences. Woodland Park Zoo, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, and Northwest Trek Wildlife Park collaborate to promote the challenge in the Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area through supporting and coaching the community in how to participate in the challenge, advance science, and discover nature and wildlife for themselves. This year, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Green Tukwila have also joined the local planning team to help spread the word and engage community members in the challenge.

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