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SUN IN THE SKY, 'SNOW' ON THE GROUND AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM ON AUG. 22

Watch animals enjoy an Arctic Blast

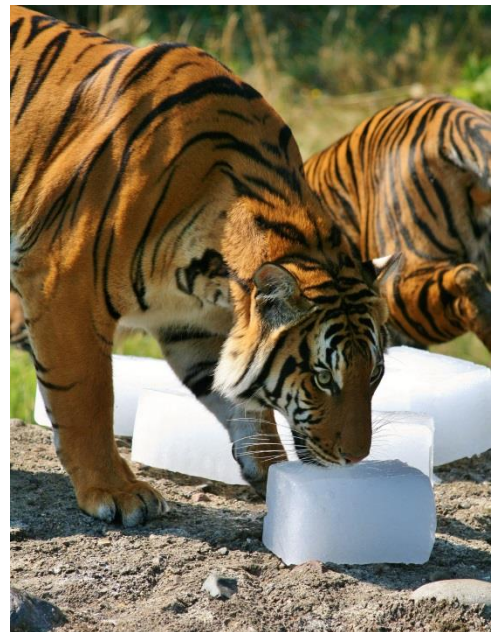
TACOMA, Wash. – There's a 100 percent chance of 'snow' at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium on Saturday, August 22. Sure, the calendar still says it's August. But animals and kids will romp and revel in a ton of icy fun during Arctic Blast, with events scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Think of it as January in late summer—but don't look for real snowflakes. The cold will arrive in several bags of shaved and party ice and hundreds of pounds of ice blocks.

Most of it will be used as enrichments for animals in every corner of the zoo, but kids and adults can get in on the icy landscape, too.

Huge piles of ice will be spread on the zoo's main lawn, creating a mini-winter wonderland for kids and adults – until the sun melts it away.

All activities are free with zoo admission. Zoo hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, with events scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Here's the schedule:

- **11:00 am** - See curious fish encounter ice blocks in the Aquariums.
- **11:00 am** - Watch as muskoxen receive ice piles.
- **11:30 am** - Polar bears will cool down with piles of ice.
- **11:30 am** - See clouded leopards play in shaved ice.
- **12:30 pm** - Tigers will enjoy a refreshing enrichment treat.
- **12:30 pm** - Arctic foxes will enjoy piles of shaved ice.
- **1:00 pm** - Watch Asian elephants beat the heat with ice piles.
- **2:00 pm** - Red wolves will receive an ice pile to play in.

With school about to start and summer winding down, Arctic Blast is a great way to have one last gasp of summer.

Visitors can skip the lines by purchasing tickets ahead of time online.

For more information, visit www.pdza.org.

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Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest's only combined zoo and aquarium, promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).