



## **FUN-FILLED WEEKEND OF ANIMAL EVENTS AT PIERCE COUNTY ZOOS**

*Watch animals feast on their favorite foods at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park and enjoy icy treats at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium Sept. 3-5*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Aug. 8, 2022

TACOMA/EATONVILLE, Wash.—Spend Labor Day weekend surrounded by animals Sept. 3-5 at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park in Eatonville and Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma. The sister zoos will each be celebrating the unofficial end of summer with fun events for the whole family to enjoy.

### **Feeding Frenzy at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park**

Just as humans go to barbeques to celebrate the unofficial end to summer, the animals at Northwest Trek get to rip, chew, and devour their favorite foods during Feeding Frenzy Sept. 3-5, an annual event at Northwest Trek. Watch the wildlife park's animals enjoy special meals, like carcasses for the gray wolves and cougar. Why do we do this? It's great for animal health to eat foods they'd come across naturally in the wild, and to use their claws, teeth, and muscles to eat. Plus, it's cool to watch. Keepers get creative in presenting treats and enrichments for the animals to get them curious and encourage natural behaviors, like digging for food and using their brains to find it.

**When: Sept. 3- 5, 9:30am-5pm**

Schedule of Events:

*Watch these animals chomp and munch at the times below*

Sept. 3:

11:30 a.m.: Badgers

1:30 p.m.: Grizzly bears

Sept. 4:

11:30 a.m.: Wolverines

3:30 p.m.: Gray wolves

Sept. 5:

11:30 a.m.: Otters

3:30 p.m.: Cougar

Kids from toddlers to tweens will enjoy the half-acre, nature-inspired Kids' Trek play area, with child-sized cabins to explore, slides to go down, rope ladders and nets to climb, a stream to splash in, a sand box, and a construction area to stretch the imagination.

To learn more about the event, visit [nwtrek.org](http://nwtrek.org). #

### **End of Summer Blast at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium**

It's time to chill out! Join animals at Point Defiance Zoo in an all-weekend celebration jam-packed with cool activities - literally.

Watch animals like the tigers, sea otters and elephant play with icy treats and summery enrichments (at scheduled times below, so you don't miss it!).

Kids can cool off and splash like an otter, frog, or fish on the lily pad splash pad in Kids' Zone, then climb on the playground and slide like a penguin. While you're there, don't forget to pet and feed the goats (open daily).

Stop by the Tidal Touch Zone in the Pacific Seas Aquarium and get an anemone hug around one finger. Feel the rough texture of sea stars, the spikiness of sea urchins, and the hardness of crab shells. You'll feel like you're at the beach!

**When: Sept. 3- 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

Schedule of Events:

*Watch animals enjoy special treats at these times:*

11 a.m.: Tigers will receive icy treats and other enrichment

12:30 p.m.: Marine mammals will enjoy ice treats and other enrichments

12:45 p.m.: Sea otters will play with ice and chomp on fresh seafood

1 p.m.: Suki the elephant will feast on watermelon, icy treats and other enrichments

2 p.m.: Red wolves will enjoy meatballs and other enrichments

To learn more about the event, visit [pdza.org](http://pdza.org).

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