



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 9, 2017

**FROM SPECIAL TREATS FOR ANIMALS TO ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TIPS FOR VISITORS,
EVERYONE CAN ENJOY “GOING GREEN” AT THE ZOO ON MARCH 18**

TACOMA, Wash. — With a tip o’ the cap to the Emerald Isle, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is celebrating the color green during Going Green on Saturday, March 18.



Many of the zoo’s animals will receive “lucky” green treats or toys. Here’s the schedule of animal enrichments:

- 11:30 a.m. – Polar bears will get green ice treats and toys.
- 12 p.m. – Arctic foxes will play with green toys and enjoy icy treats.
- 12:30 p.m. – Sumatran tigers will get bamboo and other green treats, then gibbons will enjoy enrichments.
- 1 p.m. – Asian elephants

will smash and devour watermelons.

- 2 p.m. – A giant Pacific octopus will enjoy a green enrichment.
- 2 p.m. – Red wolves will get a special green treat.
- 2:30 p.m. – Penguins will nibble on grasses.

Enrichments improve an animal's quality of life by creating a more stimulating environment and encouraging species-typical behaviors, which promotes physical and mental health.

Over at Kids’ Zone, the zoo also will celebrate the 1st birthday of goats Dublin and Clover by

presenting them with Timothy hay “cupcakes” at 1:30 p.m.

Visitors also can learn about the zoo’s green practices, from conserving wild habitats around the world to living in harmony with local wildlife.

All activities are free with zoo admission.

For more information, visit 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).

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