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**SHARKS, SHARKS, AND MORE SHARKS!
IT'S A SHARK EXTRAVAGANZA AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM JULY 9-10**

Tacoma, Wash. – At Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, there's a myriad of opportunities to see and touch underwater animals. During Sharks! weekend on July 9-10, sharks will steal the spotlight.



The public can see a variety of sharks in the South Pacific Aquarium. Epaulette and bamboo sharks are small and live with their cartilaginous cousins at Stingray Cove, where visitors can gently touch them.

From there, one can head downstairs to see 16 sharks circling gracefully in the shark exhibit. There are massive sandbar, sand tiger, and nurse sharks to marvel at, plus a smaller blacktip reef sharks and a Japanese wobbegong shark to see.

They're mesmerizing.

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is a Northwest leader in telling the story of how very much in peril sharks are. Millions are killed every year just for their fins; others die when they're caught up in fishermen's nets.

People can learn how to help these amazing and misunderstood animals at www.pdza.org/savesharks.

Sharks! is an opportunity to celebrate these graceful and intriguing creatures, get a deeper look at their behavior, and learn about their important role in the ocean ecosystem.

The Sharks! Weekend schedule includes animal feeding times and interactive activities for guests:

- **Shark feed:** 11 am, South Pacific Aquarium (*Saturday only*)
- **Lagoon feed:** 11 am, South Pacific Aquarium (*Sunday only*)
- **Stingray feed:** 1 pm, South Pacific Aquarium
- **Vision Test:** Try out hammerhead shark vision with our shark goggles and eye chart

- **Shark Food Toss:** Join in on a beanbag toss to discover what sharks eat
- **Sixth Sense:** Experience how sharks use electro receptors to locate prey
- **Shark Hat:** Test your creative side and create a shark hat
- **Scent Tracking:** Find dinner with your keen, sharky sense of smell

For particularly adventurous visitors, Eye-to-Eye Shark Dives are available when reserved in advance. Each Shark Dive is a unique interactive experience that brings Zoo guests underwater to help them see things from a shark's point of view – literally. For more information on Shark Dives, visit www.pdza.org/dive.

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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).