

**Media Alert**  
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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Summer Fun at the Amarillo Zoo!**

There is always something fun to do at the Amarillo Zoo. With summer vacation upon us make plans to visit the Zoo. In addition to our wonderful residents, the Zoo is also a place to learn and experience the animal world through one of our many programs. Throughout the summer we will be offering guests a variety of keeper chats, feeding demonstrations, animal enrichment activities, critter encounters and more!

Each day the Zoo staff will be offering **Keeper Chats**. These informal presentations are often augmented by the use of touchable biofacts or one of our educational animals.

Keeper Chats are informal and usually last approximately 15 minutes. They also allow for visitor interaction and questions. Scheduled keeper chats will be listed at the Zoo's entrance with the times and locations.

Want to see how a snake eats? Then be sure to come by the Zoo's herpetarium for a **snake feeding demonstration**. Each Thursday at 11:00am the Zoo staff will provide a short talk and demonstration on how snakes and other reptiles eat.

Also offered throughout the day will be a new **tortoise encounter area** where Zoo guests can see one of the many species of tortoise the Zoo has in its collection. You may see a leopard, pancake or red-footed tortoise.

Like parrots? Be sure to stop at one of the **parrot encounter areas**! Throughout the week we will have one of our parrots out for guests to see and learn about. Be sure to check the daily schedule at the front gate to see if our sulfur-crested cockatoo or blue and gold macaw will be out for viewing.

**Daily wildlife shows** will be offered in our new wildlife theater. Each morning at 10:30am our Zoo educators will entertain and inform you of some of our special zoo ambassadors.

**Hungry or thirsty?** Be sure to stop at the Zoo concessions to enjoy a cold drink, hot nachos, hotdogs or hamburger. New this summer – ice cold snow cones!

**Want a souvenir?** Stop at the Zoovenir station! A large variety of animal plush toys, toy sets, unique jewelry, art work and more to satisfy that animal lover in the family.

The Zoo is also thrilled to introduce **The Wild Pack**, an easy-to-use mobile investigation pack filled with super-cool stuff to help you explore your Zoo! With tools from the lightweight Wild Pack – like binoculars, biofacts and animal guides – families can investigate questions like how does a snake shed, what does the canine tooth of a tiger look like and what is the difference between a horn and antler.

Support conservation by getting your **face painted** like a tiger. For a \$5 donation you can have your face painted while knowing you are helping protect critical tiger habitat throughout the world. All proceeds go towards *Project Panthera*.

Be sure to plan a visit to the Amarillo Zoo this summer for a great family outing!

Founded in 1950, the Amarillo Zoo is an exciting live animal adventure that provides a unique educational and conservation resource that serves over 150,000 guests annually. Set in a 13-acre lush wooded landscape, the Zoo is home to more than 60 exotic and native species animals.

The Amarillo Zoo is located at NE 24<sup>th</sup> Ave and Dumas Highway inside Thompson Park. The Zoo is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission is \$4.00 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$2 for children ages 3-12 and FREE for children 2 and under.

To learn more about the fun and exciting things happening at the zoo visit our Web site at [amarillozoo.org](http://amarillozoo.org) or follow us on Facebook.