



**Northwest Trek**  
Wildlife Park

**METRO PARKS TACOMA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 7, 2016

## **ALL-NEW ZOOKEEPER ACADEMY JULY 16 AT NORTHWEST TREK WILDLIFE PARK** *Visitors can meet animal keepers and learn about careers in zoology-related fields*

EATONVILLE, Wash. – A new event at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park promises an exciting glimpse into the lives of zookeepers and the world of animal care.



Zookeeper Academy on July 16 will put the spotlight on animal care professionals at the wildlife park. Special demonstrations and activities will show curious visitors that working with animals is a lot of fun, but there's hard work involved, too.

During Zookeeper Academy, visitors can talk to keepers, watch animals up close, and see a showcase of enrichment toys and special food items that keepers use to encourage natural behavior in animals.

Enrichments stimulate animals' curiosity, help them exercise, and even provide them with interesting ways to hunt for their food.

Here's the list of scheduled activities:

- **11:30 am:** Training demonstration with gray wolves
- **11:30 am:** Trailside Encounter, Wetlands Stage
- **1:30 pm:** Black bear and grizzly bear feeding
- **1:30 pm:** Trailside Encounter, Forest Stage
- **2:00 pm:** Zookeeper Q&A at Backyard Stage
- **3:00 pm:** Enrichment demonstration at Wetlands exhibit area
- **3:30 pm:** Trailside Encounter, Backyard Stage

Plus, summertime means baby season at Northwest Trek. Visitors can look for the new moose calf, bison and elk calves, bighorn sheep lambs, and deer fawns in the Free-Roaming Area from aboard a comfortable tram on a Discovery Tram Tour.

Along the wildlife park's walking tour, black bears, a grizzly bear, gray wolves, bobcats, and other native Northwest predators can be seen.

All activities are free with admission or membership to Northwest Trek Wildlife Park.

For more information, visit [www.nwtrek.org](http://www.nwtrek.org).

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*Northwest Trek, accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, is a 725-acre zoological park dedicated to conservation, education and recreation by displaying, interpreting and researching native Northwest wildlife and their natural habitats. The wildlife park is a facility of Metro Parks Tacoma and is located 35 miles southeast of Tacoma off State Highway 161.*

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