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IT'S ALMOST TIME TO HOOT N' HOWL AT NORTHWEST TREK AND GO 'BOO' AT THE ZOO
October is right around the corner, and so are Hoot 'n' Howl at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park and Zoo Boo at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium – events guaranteed to scare up good times

There's a nip to the morning air, color is in the trees and department stores are full of fall decorating items and costumes for kids.

That means two of the best-loved autumn events in the area – Hoot 'n' Howl at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park and Zoo Boo at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium – are just a few short weeks away.

Each features amazing animal sightings, visitors in colorful costumes, and a cornucopia-full of activities guaranteed to delight kids and adults.

Here's the schedule:

- **Hoot 'n' Howl at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park:**
Oct. 23 and 24, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Zoo Boo at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium:**
Oct. 17 and 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Here's what visitors will find at the two events:

Hoot 'n' Howl at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

Take a special nighttime tram ride through the free roaming area, where bison, Roosevelt elk, bighorn sheep and other animals roam. This is a rare opportunity to spot some of them under the stars, and nighttime tram tours are offered only once a year to the general public.

Visitors may come across live animal encounters along the paths. Education stations provide an opportunity to learn about the creatures that reside in the wildlife park. Games, crafts, and trick-or-treating are also on the schedule.



Guests may come in costume if they like, but adults are asked to leave their masks and scary face paint at home.

Northwest Trek is open during regular hours – 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 23 and 24. The gates reopen at 5:30 p.m. for Hoot 'n' Howl, which begins at 6 p.m.

Tickets for Hoot 'n' Howl are \$11.50 for member adults (13 and up); and \$7.50 for member youth, 3-12. There is no charge for kids 2 and under. Prices for non-members are \$13.50 for adults and \$9.50 for youth.

Discounted tickets can be purchased online at nwtrek.org/hoot-n-howl.

Zoo Boo at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium

Animals receive special treats, including carved pumpkins. The enrichments show off the very best of zookeepers' amazing jack-o-lantern carving skills. And it's a hoot to see what the animals do with them. Grab! Chomp! Smash!

Meanwhile, there will be indoor and outdoor activities, games, treats and lots more fun for the whole family.

And it's the one time a year when visitors can come in costume. So, with kids and adults all dressed up for the trick-or-treating season, there will be more than the usual number of walruses and tigers and bears. Oh my!

Zoo Boo activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Full zoo hours on those days are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Everyone who comes to Zoo Boo in costume will get a \$2 discount off the general admission rate.

Zoo Boo is presented by BECU.

For more information about Hoot 'n' Howl or to buy tickets in advance, visit www.nwtrek.org.

To learn more about Zoo Boo and other activities at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, visit www.pdza.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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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).