



## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Boo at the Zoo 2024 to take place October 18-20; Ticket sales now open**

**LAFAYETTE, IN – September 23, 2024**– The Columbian Park Zoo has announced the annual Boo at the Zoo fundraising event will take place on October 18, 19, and 20 from 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm daily.

The annual SPOOK-tacular event is geared towards pre-school and elementary-aged children. It will feature daily costume contests with prizes, the ever-popular Halloween Train Ride, treat stops, live DJ & dance party, and educational opportunities throughout the zoo. The Wintek (powered by Tipmont) Family Fun Zone will feature inflatable games and obstacle courses. Each ticket holder ages 17 and under will also get to select a pumpkin from the Subaru of Indiana Automotive Pumpkin Patch (while supplies last).

As far as character meet-and-greets, a costumed group of characters from a galaxy far, far away will be on site during Boo at the Zoo on Friday, October 18 from 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm. During the event on Saturday, October 19, attendees will enjoy some of their favorite well-known princesses from 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

Due to the tremendous success of years past, Boo at the Zoo will once again feature the Community Pumpkin Decorating Contest in which attendees may vote for their favorite pumpkin. Also back this year is the Peterman Brothers "un-haunted hayride," which will take attendees on a not-too-spooky trip through Columbian Park. "We are excited to bring back things that our community loves from year-to-year, while also finding ways to create new experiences as well," said Zoo Director Neil Dale.

One big change to this year's event, is that tickets can be redeemed any evening of Boo at the Zoo, whereas in the past, attendees have had to select a specific date to attend when making their purchase. "We know plans change and things happen, especially when you have small children," said Dale. "So now you can use your ticket anytime during event weekend."

**Ticket sales are now open to the public for \$8 each online at [www.columbianparkzoo.org](http://www.columbianparkzoo.org). Children ages two years and under are free.** Tickets are non-refundable. Tickets will be available at the gate for \$10 each.

"This is our biggest fundraiser of the year," said Dale. "We are thankful for all of the support we've received from the community and can't wait for another year of Boo at the Zoo!"

Boo at the Zoo is a fundraiser for the Lafayette Parks Foundation. All proceeds benefit the Columbian Park Zoo and are used to fund capital improvements, various Zoo projects, and educational programs. For more information about Boo at the Zoo, please call 765-807-1540 or visit [columbianparkzoo.org](http://columbianparkzoo.org). Stay up to date on Zoo happenings at [www.facebook.com/cpzoo](http://www.facebook.com/cpzoo).

#### **Columbian Park Zoo**

Founded in 1908, Columbian Park Zoo is the second oldest zoo in Indiana. It is approximately 6 acres in size and is located in historic Columbian Park. The Zoo features several "immersion" exhibits and the animal collection consists of nearly 200 animals representing approximately 90 species.



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## **Lafayette Parks Foundation**

Since its formation in 1994, the Lafayette Parks Foundation serves to support the Lafayette Park Department through fund development, assistance with capital projects, special events and programs. The mission of the Foundation is to solicit and encourage donations to assist Lafayette Park capital improvements and programs. Most recent projects include the new Penguin Exhibit at the Columbian Park Zoo, and Crosser Sports Complex.

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