



April 21, 2010

Celebrate Earth Day – the Butterflies are Back!

The butterflies are back in the Garden Gallery of the ENMAX Conservatory. Take a few minutes to enjoy these delicate beauties in the zoo's aromatic spring garden setting this Earth Day.

In celebration of the long-awaited return of the butterflies to the Calgary Zoo, Calgary elementary schools (grades 2-4) were contacted and invited to have students create their own unique butterfly art, or interpret the life-cycle of the butterfly through their life-cycles curriculum studies. Teachers and students responded with great enthusiasm to this invitation and there is a wonderful display in the Atrium of the ENMAX Conservatory for all zoo visitors to enjoy.

There are lots of other Earth Day activities going on at the zoo including: Master Gardeners on hand to talk about ways to garden in a more environmentally friendly way; write your message to the Earth at the Chalk Walk for Earth; celebrate Alberta's Badlands with a visit to Dinosaurs Alive!; and bring your own mug on Earth Day to get a free Starbucks coffee. Don't forget you can even drop off your old cell phone and the zoo will recycle – you'll help the Earth and help gorilla conservation too!

Media Information:

WHAT: Return of the Butterflies to the ENMAX Conservatory and various Earth Day activities

WHEN: Thursday, April 22 – EARTH DAY - 10 am to 3 pm

Interviews available upon request.

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The Calgary Zoo is part of a professional, accredited association and member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA) comprised of caring, trusted experts committed to ensuring that many endangered and threatened species are part of the world's future. AZA and CAZA advocate on behalf of animals with a unified and consistent voice, and collaborate with others committed to their long-term survival. The Calgary Zoo participates in many Species Survival Plans (SSP), a network among accredited institutions designed to breed endangered species in captivity to ensure the best possible genetic diversity and maintain healthy populations in human care. Through our conservation, education and research programs, many animals in our care play an essential role in the survival of their species in the wild.

The Calgary Zoological Society is a charitable organization. Charitable Registration #118824192 RR0001