

From Tim Tetzlaff, Director of Conservation and Communications

News Release **Contact:** Tim L. Tetzlaff, Director of Conservation & Communications
For Immediate Release 239.262.5409 x 122 / tim@napleszoo.org

RED, WHITE, & ZOO: Naples Zoo Animals Play with “Firecrackers” July 4 to 7

Plus Active Military & Veterans FREE

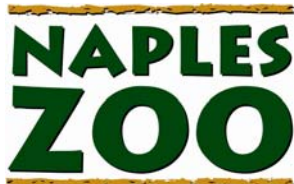
Naples, FL — Even the animals at Naples Zoo are celebrating during the July 4th weekend. From Friday, July 4 to Monday, July 7, animals at Naples Zoo will get to play with firecrackers. Well, kind of. Instead of flash powder filled explosives, giant cardboard tubes decorated in red, white, and blue like firecrackers will be stuffed with the animals’ favorite treats throughout the weekend. Zoo guests can join in watching the fun of animals blasting their way into the huge firecrackers.

Some senior Southwest Floridians are contributing to the Independence Day fun by creating those giant firecrackers. Residents at multiple locations of Brookdale Senior Living communities are setting up King Kong-sized fireworks factories to add to the animal’s holiday cheer.

Events like this are part of a daily animal enrichment program. Proper animal husbandry includes not only cleaning, nutritional diets, veterinary care, and daily record keeping, but also behavioral enrichment. Enrichment includes toys for the animal to play with (or destroy), supplemental foraging activities, and even the use of scents to increase curiosity about objects. By rotating activities, animals consistently engage in something fun and thought provoking.

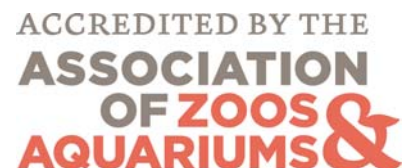
Military Personnel Free During Independence Day Weekend

In honor of those who protect our country today or served in the past, Naples Zoo is offering free admission to all active military and veterans from Friday, July 4 to Monday, July 7. Military personnel will receive free admission to the Zoo by presenting current military identification or membership card in a



-- MORE --

www.napleszoo.org
(239) 262-5409 ext 122



veteran's organization and matching name photo ID. Plus, adult and child guests in their party will also receive \$2 off regular Zoo admission during the weekend.

Naples Zoo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization cooperating in conservation programs both in and outside the wild for endangered species. Daily presentations include Alligator Bay Feeding, Meet the Keeper Series, along with two premiere presentations: Planet Predator and Serpents: Fangs & Fiction. Both of these feature shows take place in the Safari Canyon Theater where guests see live animals along with exciting video footage. For those looking for more on the historic botanical garden, the Tropical Plant Trek offers guests a short tour led by University of Florida Master Gardeners. And one of the zoo's most popular activities is the Primate Expedition Cruise where guests embark on a guided cruise through islands inhabited by monkeys, lemurs, and apes.

The all day pay-one-price ticket includes admission to both the nationally accredited zoo and historic garden along with all shows, tours, exhibits, and the boat ride. (\$18.75 adults age 13+/ \$10.50 children 3 to 12, under 3 free. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age). **Annual memberships and discount tickets are also available online at www.napleszoo.org.** Visitors enjoy healthy meals at the SUBWAY® Cafe and shop for wild gifts at tame prices in The ZOO Gift Shop. Naples Zoo welcomes guests daily from 9:30 to 5:30 with the last ticket sold at 4:30 and is located at 1590 Goodlette-Frank Road across from the Coastland Center mall in the heart of Naples. To learn more, click www.napleszoo.org or call (239) 262-5409.

Print Quality Image of animals and "firecrackers" available for immediate download at **www.napleszoo.org/press**

###



www.napleszoo.org
(239) 262-5409 ext 122

