



Zoolights Adapts



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DURHAM, COURTESY OF THE OREGON ZOO

More than 1.5 million brightly colored lights transform the Oregon Zoo into a walk-through winter wonderland during ZooLights. The annual attraction opens for the holiday season starting Monday, Nov. 22.

Light displays will have walk or drive options

A Northwest holiday tradition is back! ZooLights, presented by U.S. Bank, opens Monday Nov. 22 at the Oregon Zoo, showcasing a winter wonderland of more than 1.5 million brightly colored lights.

This year, there are two ways

to illuminate the season: ZooLights' traditional walk-through experience makes a much-anticipated return, and the zoo has also set aside a dozen midweek evenings for a drive-through experience similar to last year's.

The drive-through option may better accommodate people with different physical abilities, according to guest services manager Ivan Ratcliff, and it may be a

more comfortable choice for some during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For tickets and additional info, visit oregonzoo.org/zoolights.

"Everything's been adapting to change these past couple of years, and ZooLights is no exception," Ratcliff said. "We've put a lot of measures into place to help make this holiday tradition safe, accessible and fun for everyone."

Before the official opening, this

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 19 and 20, the zoo will host a ZooLights experience just for the 21-and-over crowd with beer, live music and the Unipiper.

"If you've ever wondered what ZooLights would be like without the kids, this is for you," Ratcliff said.

To help ensure a safe experience for all, COVID safety measures will be in place during this

year's ZooLights. All guests, including members, must reserve their ZooLights tickets in advance via the zoo website.

Face masks will be required for all walk-through guests 5 years and older. Drive-through guests do not need to wear masks while inside their vehicles. Masks are required, however, during check-in and other interactions with ZooLights staff.

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