For immediate release | May 11, 2023 Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Craig Newberry woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

Media link for photos:

https://zoo.resourcespace.com/?c=3815&k=b6ecb872d5

Zoo reopens an upgraded Bug World exhibit Discover the amazing world of arthropods!

WHAT:

WHERE:

INFO:

After being closed for several months, Bug World at Woodland Park Zoo has reopened with upgrades and the reintroduction of arthropods—the largest group of invertebrates.

From the temperate forest and desert to the savanna and tropics, Bug World unleashes the world of 16 species of arthropods. Discover the Mexican redknee tarantula, western horse lubber, two-spotted assassin bug, Peruvian fire walking stick, flamboyant flower beetle, fierce waterbug, emperor scorpion and many more, and develop a new appreciation for these animals.

One of the new features installed in Bug World is Kessil LED lighting. The Nobel prize-winning technology groups LED chips together in a tight formation to produce a stronger beam of ultraviolet light. The lights provide levels of UVA rays that are closer to what animals experience in their natural habitats. The zoo is excited to incorporate this technology into Bug World and observe how the bugs respond.

After experiencing Bug World, head over to A Bug's Eye View for face-toface encounters with 14 massive animatronic insects representing species from all over the world. Extra fee in addition to zoo admission. The temporary experience is open through Labor Day. Visit www.zoo.org/bugseyeview.

WHEN: Bug World is opened during regular zoo hours: 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. daily.

> Bug World is located near the Family Farm. Enter Woodland Park Zoo through the West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th

Sts. or South Entrance at N. 50th St. & Fremont Ave. N.

COST: Bug World is free with zoo admission or membership. Visitors are strongly

encouraged to purchase zoo tickets online in advance at www.zoo.org/visit.

Bugs outnumber people 1.4 billion to one and are critical to our survival. They play important roles in the ecosystems we share by pollinating plants, adding nutrients to the soil, balancing bug populations and more. With threats such as climate change and habitat loss impacting bug populations, bugs need our help.

Insects are the planet's most efficient decomposers, breaking down everything from carcasses to dung to fallen logs—they're nature's recyclers! They control weeds, kill crop pests, and are powerful pollinators when it comes to crops and other flowering plants.

The four groups of arthropods:

- Arachnids: spiders, scorpions, mites and ticks
- Insects: include bees, wasps, ants, grasshoppers, beetles, butterflies, moths
- Crustaceans: include crab, shrimp, lobsters, woodlice, barnacles



Myriapods: millipedes, centipedes

Learn how to discover, recover and coexist with pollinators by visiting www.zoo.org/nw/pollinators.

Zoo hours: 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. daily.

Accessibility: Information about accessibility and resources, one-to-one aides, sighted guides, mobility equipment rentals, and a sensory map and tools can be found at www.zoo.org/access. For questions or to request disability accommodations for zoo programs or events, contact zooinfo@zoo.org.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500. Follow the zoo on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

###