

2023 John Ball Zoo Event Calendar

Grand Rapids Lantern Festival

Wednesday - Sunday

April 19 - June 11

7PM - 11PM

D Immerse yourself in a one-of-a-kind experience, where you will be whisked away on a mile long trail through the zoo, lit by 55 groupings of handcrafted Asian lanterns!

Presented by Family Fare

Party for the Planet

Saturday, April 22, 2023

9AM-6PM

F Be a superhero this Earth Day by learning about conservation and what we can do to save wildlife and wild places.

World Turtle Day

Saturday, May 20, 2023

9AM-6PM

F Shellebrate Michigan's native turtles while enjoying animal programs and entertaining activities throughout the zoo.

Summer Spectacular

Friday-Sunday June 2-4

9AM-6PM

F Let the summer festivities begin! Join us and enjoy live music, animal activities, and specialty food for that festival feel.

RendeZoo

Friday, June 9

7PM-10PM

We're bringing back the biggest party in town! Be wowed by live entertainment, specialty food and beverage, and unique animal experiences all set against the colorful backdrop of Grand Rapids Lantern Festival.

Presented by Bissell

World Ocean Day

Thursday, June 15, 2023

9AM-5PM

F Catch your favorite ocean characters, Moana, Ariel & Friends, as they help us celebrate and learn about the water and the many animals that live in it.

Roaring Nights

D Spend your summer nights at John Ball Zoo's 21 and up concert series, where you can see animals, while enjoying live music, craft beer and wines, specialty food, and no kids!

Presented by 5/3rd Bank

Thursday, June 15, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Mama's Hot Sauce

Thursday, June 29, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Earth Radio

Thursday, July 13, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Main Street Dueling Pianos

Thursday, July 27, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Project 90

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Cabildo

Thursday, August 24, 2023 6PM-9PM

Band: Great Scott

Breakfast with the Animals

D Start your day off right having breakfast with the animals followed by animal chats at some of your favorite animal exhibits.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 7:30AM-9AM

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 7:30AM-9AM

Wednesday, July 19, 2023 7:30AM-9AM

Wednesday, August 2, 2023 7:30AM-9AM

Beat the Heat

Thursday, July 6, 2023 9AM-6PM

F Anna, Elsa, Tiana, and Mulan, are inviting you to come beat the summer heat with our animals. Here everyone can cool down with icy cold treats and catch live ice carving!

Presented by Meijer

HippoPalooza

Saturday-Sunday July 8-9 9AM-6PM

F Pygmy Hippos are here to stay! Our world class exhibit is open, so let the festivities begin. Soak in live music, keeper chats, other animal activities, and specialty food for that festival feel.

World Chimp Day

Friday, July 14, 2023 9AM-6PM

F Join our chimp-pan-party! Jasmine, Aladdin, Jane, and Elena will be encouraging guests to catch keeper chats, animal programming and educational activities!

WGVU Kids Day

Thursday, August 3, 2023 9AM-4PM

Join WGVU Public Media at KidsDay where you're guaranteed to have a day packed with fun, adventure, and entertainment for kids, families, and friends. Zoo admission is only \$5 per person on Kids Day!



Indicates an event has a **discount for members**



Indicates an event is **free for members**

To purchase a membership, visit
JBZOO.ORG

For questions, contact us at
616.336.4312
member@jbzoo.org

World Lion Day

Thursday, August 10, 2023 9AM-6PM

F We're turning this into a feline festival! Authentic African dancers and music will be encouraging guests to learn how to "Protect the Pride" by your favorite felines.

Safety Celebration

Friday, August 18, 2023 9AM-6PM

F Who knew safety could be so much fun? The Zoo is partnering with local first responders and organizations to teach guests fun ways they can stay safe.

Meerkat Mania

Saturday-Monday

September 2-4, 2023 9AM-6PM

F Our very own resident meerkat mob has taken over the zoo! Say hello to our little friends, while enjoying live music, animal activities, and specialty food for that festival feel.

Monarch Day

Saturday, September 9, 2023 9AM-6PM

F Join Mirabelle, Rapunzel, Tinkerbelle, and Fawn for our pollinator party! Guests can help release monarch butterflies every hour to help improve populations in their natural environment.

STEAM Day

Saturday, September 23, 2023 9AM-6PM

F We're encouraging guests of all ages to get excited about each aspect of science, technology, engineering, art, and math through fun, educational experiences!

*Free for teachers with valid ID
presented at ticketing window*

Zoo Goes Boo

Friday-Sunday

October 20-22 & 27-29 10AM-5PM

Member only hour: 9AM-10AM

D The Zoo is your ultimate Halloween destination, decked out with decorations, twisted treat stations, and of course, amazing animals. Catch villains, magicians, jugglers and more while hitting Grand Rapids biggest trick-or-treat event!

Presented by Meijer

