



**MAYOR**  
Renard U. Johnson

**CITY MANAGER**  
Dionne Mack

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Alejandra Chávez

**District 2**  
Dr. Josh Acevedo

**District 3**  
Deanna M. Rocha

**District 4**  
Cynthia Boyar Trejo

**District 5**  
Ivan Niño

**District 6**  
Art Fierro

**District 7**  
Lily Limón

**District 8**  
Chris Canales

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

03/09/2026

# Spring Break Roars to Life at the El Paso Zoo & Botanical Gardens

## Wild Encounters, Programs & Extended Hours

**EL PASO, Texas**—Spring Break is going wild at the El Paso Zoo & Botanical Gardens, where extended hours, special animal programs, and family-friendly adventures await visitors of all ages.

Through March 29, the Zoo will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., giving guests extra time to explore animal habitats, discover fascinating wildlife, and enjoy the outdoors with family and friends.

Visitors looking for an unforgettable experience can take part in one of the Zoo's 11 Animal Encounters, which offer unique, up-close opportunities to learn about animals' diets, habitats, and behaviors from Zoo experts while meeting some of the Zoo's incredible residents along the way.

Spring Break also brings special programming throughout the day, packed with fun, interactive, and educational activities for guests of all ages.

"We're excited to welcome families for Spring Break and give them more time to explore and connect with the animals," said El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens Interim Director Gary Lunsford. "With extended hours and special activities, visitors can enjoy weeks of unforgettable experiences while gaining a deeper appreciation for wildlife from around the world."

Young adventurers can also cool off at the Hunt Family Desert Spring splash pad, a playful, desert-themed water area featuring dancing water jets, gushers, pop-its, and interactive rock formations, making it the perfect place to refresh between animal visits.

When it's time to recharge, guests can grab a bite at one of the Zoo's restaurants or snack stands. Menu options include fresh salads, deli sandwiches, pizza, burgers, hand-battered chicken strips, and refreshing drinks. The Beastro Kiosk also offers fun treats like ICEEs and Dippin' Dots, along with splash pad essentials.

To explore upcoming programs and book animal encounters, visit the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens on social media or at [www.ElPasoZoo.org](http://www.ElPasoZoo.org).

### **About the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens**

The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens spans 35 acres and is home to more than 220 animal species, including many that are critically endangered. The Zoo celebrates the importance of wildlife and natural resources while creating engaging opportunities for people to connect with and learn about the natural world.

###



Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**  
Among All Members of the Community

**Media Contact:** Rick Isaiás  
Strategic Communications  
[isaiasra@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:isaiasra@elpasotexas.gov)  
(M): 915.355.6611