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Media Contact:

LeiLani Barney | Marketing Manager

leilani@explorewashingtonpark.org

509.954.3904

Visit Washington Park Virtually Stay Home, Save Lives

Sunny Forecast Prompts Additional Efforts to Slow COVID-19

PORTLAND, Ore. (April 7, 2020) — Love Washington Park? You can now visit one of Oregon’s premier destinations right from your home while doing your part to help contain the spread of COVID-19.

[Explore Washington Park](#) is bringing Washington Park to you with a [virtual tour](#). The goal is to encourage the community to safely enjoy the Park remotely. Along with several road closures and restrictions throughout the Park, the message is clear – stay home, save lives.

Our first warmer temperatures of the season are typically an automatic cue for people to get out and explore. This year, it comes with caution as our communities work to combat COVID-19. The latest Oregon Health Authority [projections](#) show staying at home and social distancing are working to flatten the curve. Let’s continue to work together to keep that up.



Photo courtesy of Explore Washington Park

“As Oregonians, we love getting outside during these sunny spring days, especially right now, but it’s also increasingly difficult to maintain proper social and physical distancing in the Park,” said Heather McCarey, Explore Washington Park Executive Director. “We understand it’s not the same, but as a safe alternative we created a way for people to visit online as well as support the Park’s beloved cultural institutions.”

The virtual tour can be found on [Explore Washington Park’s](#) website and its social media channels, including [YouTube](#).

Washington Park’s cultural institutions are temporarily closed. You can check out their virtual offerings online and support their ongoing efforts to keep their institutions beautiful for all those sunny days in the future.

- [Hoyt Arboretum Visitor Center](#)
- [Oregon Zoo](#)
- [Portland Children’s Museum](#)
- [Portland Japanese Garden](#)
- [World Forestry Center & Discovery Museum](#)

The International Rose Test Garden Gift Shop along with Washington Park’s playgrounds, tennis courts, and sports fields as well as SW Kingston Dr., Fischer Lane, and SW Washington Way are also closed. If you must go out, please follow park rules and practice the [CDC’s guidelines](#) for wearing cloth face coverings and physical distancing.

All of Washington Park’s cultural institutions and amenities, including Explore Washington Park’s free shuttle and visitor programs, will reopen when it is considered safe to do so by local and state authorities.

About Explore Washington Park

[Explore Washington Park](#) is a non-profit dedicated to improving access and visitor experience for Washington Park. The organization provides visitor service programs including the Park’s free shuttle, which helps people access the Park’s green spaces, trails, and cultural institutions – Oregon Zoo, Portland Children’s Museum, World Forestry Center, Hoyt Arboretum, Portland Japanese Garden, and International Rose Test Garden. Explore Washington Park was established in 2014 and is funded through parking meter revenue in partnership with Portland Parks & Recreation.

For more information about Washington Park and the Explore Washington Park free shuttle, visit explorewashingtonpark.org. Join @explorewashingtonpark on **Instagram** and **Facebook**.

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