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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens Welcomes Koi Fish

Aceitunas Beer Garden Donates Koi Fish

EL PASO, Texas—The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens is now home to a new group of koi fish, generously donated by Aceitunas Beer Garden, an iconic local bar in the Upper Valley.

As part of an ongoing effort to provide the best environment for these vibrant fish, zoo staff are preparing to transfer the remaining koi from Aceitunas to their new habitat in the coming week.

Earlier this summer, the first group of eight koi arrived at the zoo, successfully completing the recommended 30-day quarantine period to ensure the health and safety of the existing collection. With careful planning, the koi now thrive in the serene waters of the Asia habitat, where guests can enjoy their graceful presence among cascading waterfalls and lush foliage.

“We made sure these fish had a sustainable habitat where they could continue to grow and thrive,” said Colby Shannon, owner of Aceitunas Beer Garden. “We’re grateful the El Paso Zoo welcomed them, and we’re happy knowing they’ll have a great home.”

Maintaining a healthy environment is essential for koi, as overcrowding can prevent them from reaching their full size and impact water quality. These fish require ample space, clean water, and a nutritious diet to flourish—resources the zoo is well-equipped to provide.

“This is a fantastic collaboration between the zoo and the community,” said Joe Montisano, Director of the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens. “The koi have settled in beautifully, and we couldn’t be more pleased with how well they are adapting to their new surroundings.”

Visitors can now see the koi swimming through the peaceful water garden in the Asia exhibit, adding to the tranquil beauty of the zoo’s immersive experience. The El Paso Zoo invites Aceitunas patrons and the entire community to come visit these stunning fish in their new home.

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About the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens

The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens stretch across 35-acres and house animals representing over 220 species, including critically endangered species. Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA), the El Paso Zoo celebrates the value of animals and natural resources. It creates opportunities for people to rediscover their connection to nature. To learn more, visit www.ElPasoZoo.org.

Koi Fish Transfer to El Paso Zoo: <https://youtu.be/BiivaUi25A8>



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Among All Members of the Community

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