

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Zoo Launches Free “Adult Lecture Series”

BRIDGEPORT (March 22) – Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo isn’t just for the young – it’s also for the young-at-heart. That’s why the Zoo is starting a new Adult Lecture Series, sponsored by Aquarion Water Company. Twice a month, on Saturdays from 2-3 p.m., the Zoo will offer dynamic presentations about important environmental and conservation topics. The first session each month will be conducted by a guest lecturer on a local issue. The second session each month will be conducted by a Zoo staff member on a local or global issue. Presentations, for adults only, will take place in the Zoo’s Hanson Exploration Station, 1875 Noble Ave. in Bridgeport. Admission is free (Zoo admission is not required). The lecture series is posted in the Zoo’s online calendar at <http://www.beardsleyzoo.org/whats-new-events/events-calendar.asp> and also follows.

April 8 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “The Benefits of Organic Gardening and Organic Foods” by Bill Duesing, Executive Coordinator of the Connecticut chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA).

April 22 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Zoo Professionals Working in Conservation” by Lisa Tryon, Director of Conservation Education and Research at Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo.

May 13 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Connecticut Farms and Wildlife Habitats” by Jane Slupecki, Agricultural Marketing and Inspection Representative of the Department of Agriculture.

May 27 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Houseplants 101” by Jacqueline Granata, Greenhouse staff at Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo.

June 10 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

June 24 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Magical Meso-American Flora and Fauna” by Melinda Karwon, Zoo Docent.

July 8 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

July 22 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

August 12 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “CT Reptiles and Amphibians” by Greg Watkins-Colwell, Museum Assistant, Department of Vertebrate Zoology of the Peabody Museum.

August 26 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Zoos: Now and Then” by Gregg Dancho, Zoo Director, Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo.

September 9 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

September 23 (2 to 3 p.m.) – The Zoo’s **Adult Lecture Series** presents “Tracking Wildlife in CT” by Chris Clark, Zoo Educator, Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo.

October 14 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

October 28 (2 to 3 p.m.) – **Adult Lecture Series**. Topic and speaker TBD.

ABOUT AQUARION WATER COMPANY

Through its water utility subsidiaries, Aquarion Water Company is one of the 10 largest investor-owned water utilities in the U.S., serving 215,000 homes and businesses, or approximately 714,000 people, in 53 Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and New Hampshire communities. Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut provides high-quality water to 171,410 customers, or more than 599,000 people, in 36 cities and towns.

ABOUT CONNECTICUT'S BEARDSLEY ZOO

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is open year-round and exhibits primarily North and South American animals, including many endangered and threatened species. Highlights include a Tropical Rainforest, New England Farmyard, Alligator Alley aviary, Carousel, and Victorian Greenhouse.

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Look for the AZA logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things. With its more than 200 accredited members, AZA is a leader in global wildlife conservation, and your link to helping animals in their native habitats. For more information, visit aza.org.