



PRESS INQUIRIES
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STORY IDEAS

A Stop on the Regional Tour of Habitat Friendly Festivals in the Northwest

The Backyard Wildlife Festival is the only festival of its kind in the Puget Sound; one that promotes habitat restoration of backyard wildlife including birds, butterflies, squirrels, and other wildlife. It makes for a great stop on a regional tour of birding festivals that emerge in the Northwest throughout the Spring. From Grays Harbor to Othello, there isn't a shortage of festivals! The Othello Sandhill Crane Festival is March 23-25; the Olympic Peninsula Bird Fest is March 30-April 1; the Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival takes place April 27-29; the Backyard Wildlife Festival is May 12; the Puget Sound Bird Fest is May 18-19; and the Leavenworth Bird Fest occurs May 18-20.

A Concurrent Celebration of Wildlife with International Migratory Bird Day

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) celebrates the return of millions of migratory birds to their North American breeding grounds. All across the country, IMBD is turning into the so-called "Earth Day" for birders. The Backyard Wildlife Festival is the only regional festival that coincides with IMBD to help celebrate with festivities featuring a guided bird walk by the Rainier Audubon Society, performances by Bird Talk, an Indie Rock band that plays their trademark bird songs while painting scenes of birds, and more to be announced.

Tukwila Forges the Way for Backyard Wildlife Habitat Certification Program

The city of Tukwila was the first community in Washington State and only the fourth in the country to receive certification by the National Wildlife Federation as an official Community Wildlife Habitat. It is only fitting that the city of Tukwila hosts the annual Backyard Wildlife Festival! Many people perceive Tukwila as a "crossroads" where major interstates and commercial retail cross paths to form the Southcenter core. However, with the Duwamish River meandering through the heart of the city, wildlife habitats abound in Tukwila. Many dedicated residents have certified Backyard Wildlife Habitats and continue to commit to making a healthy environment for the wildlife that thrives there.

Festival Focuses on Family-Friendly Activities and Entertainment

Finding an activity for the entire family to participate in these days is difficult. The Backyard Wildlife Festival provides a whole day of family and kid's activities that are educational, entertaining and most importantly – fun! Starting with the Adventure Passport, kid's can have the chance to win great prizes by participating in the passport program and visiting vendor booths, answering their trivia questions and having their passports stamped. In the REI Pavilion, kid's can learn stewardship skills and respect for the wildlife habitat in the natural world. In the NW Trek Kids Zone, kids can participate in educational workshops that let them explore wildlife and nature through hands-on activities. Kids can also create costumes in the craft zone and participate in the Procession of the Species Wildlife Costume Parade. In the Kid's Play Area, kid's can take train rides, play on bouncy toys and do crafts. While the kids are having tons of fun, parents can enjoy the arts and craft vendor marketplace, native plant sales, expert workshops, a birding tour along the river and more.

Other Story Ideas:

- **Festival Showcases Indie Rock Band "Bird Talk"**
- **A Mother's Day Weekend Treat**