

# NEWS RELEASE

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Elyse Wagner

CONTACT:

(772) 219-1719 office  
(954) 295-9897 mobile

## Waste Management & the Palm Beach Zoo Welcome New Koala



**PICTURED (L-R):** Jenny Pung, Community Relations for Waste Management, Dr. Dan Comerford, Palm Beach Zoo Board of Directors, Dr. Terry Maple Palm Beach Zoo President/CEO and Jeff Sabin, Government Affairs Director for Waste Management

**Palm Beach, FL, June 30, 2010** – “Oz” the koala is busy adjusting to his new home at the Koala Forest at the Palm Beach Zoo and Waste Management is helping to raise funds to feed the zoo’s newest star.

Waste Management, June's 'Safari Nights' headline sponsor, is extending its support of the zoo by also generously offering to match donations to the koala food –fund up to \$500 – made during the month of July. The koala has a very expensive appetite. Oz and his pair, who should be arriving later this year, eat 175 pounds of eucalyptus per week, and will cost the zoo \$30,000 to \$35,000 a year to feed. "We are proud to be partnering with Waste Management again and appreciate all of their support with Safari Nights and Oz the koala," said Dr. Maple, President/CEO of Palm Beach Zoo. "The Palm Beach Zoo looks forward to future opportunities with Waste Management."

"We are extremely pleased to have sponsored Safari Nights at the zoo during the four Friday evenings in June, and now to welcome Oz and help raise funds to keep him well fed and healthy," said Jeff Sabin, Government Affairs Director for Waste Management, during Friday's check presentation ceremony. "We share the zoo's commitment to conservation, sustainability and protecting wildlife and natural resources and together we're able to engage the community with fun and educational programs and events."

Safari Nights offers the community an evening of family fun with the furry friends of the Palm Beach Zoo. Each week there is live music, children's games and crafts, up-close animal encounters, interactive wildlife shows and complimentary carousel rides.

Waste Management provided guests with reusable water bottles, lollipops, as well as information and displays about some of its newest services and products. Guests also enjoyed seeing and taking pictures with Waste Management's robot "Cycler" and the zoo's cuddly Koala mascot during this week's 'Safari Nights'.

Admission to 'Safari Nights' is completely affordable at \$9.95 for adults and \$5.95 for children. If you are a member of the Palm Beach Zoo, you receive discounted admission. To donate to "Oz" the koala, go to [www.palmbeachzoo.org](http://www.palmbeachzoo.org) and for more information regarding Waste Management's programs; please visit them online at [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com).

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