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For Immediate Release

Gateway Arch Park Foundation Teams Up with Purina to Host Arch Bark This Earth Month

Local pet owners will gather at our hometown national park for an annual dog-friendly festival and to learn more about the National Park Service's B.A.R.K. Ranger program.

ST. LOUIS, MO (APRIL 02, 2024) — Join Gateway Arch Park Foundation and Purina in Gateway Arch National Park on Saturday, April 20 for the return of Arch Bark. The family-friendly event is free to attend and welcomes dogs (and dog lovers) to celebrate the 91-acre greenspace of our urban national park during Earth Month. Arch Bark will be held in the North Gateway, which borders Laclede's Landing.

People with and without pup pals can enjoy a wide array of activities happening between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.:

- Kickstart your day with **Doga led by Urban Breath**, a relaxing, morning yoga session focused on dogs and their humans amid the gorgeous Arch grounds.
- Guests can also register online or at the event for the **Purina Paws on Pavement Walk**, a free one-mile walk along the fully accessible paved pathways around the monumental Gateway Arch.
- Don't miss the **Purina Incredible Dog Team** demonstrations happening at 11 a.m. and noon.
- Engage with the National Park Service's **B.A.R.K. Ranger program** at their booth to find out how you and your dog can get more involved in the parks and learn about the only non-human member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Meriwether Lewis' dog Seaman.
- A **dog-friendly bubble bus** will create a fun, bubble-making atmosphere for all to enjoy.
- Ask a **Purina pet behaviorist** about any behavior and training questions you might have about your four-legged friend.
- Commemorate the occasion with **caricature drawings** provided by Caricature STL.
- Find a forever friend and stop by the Speak Rescue and Sanctuary tent, where you'll **meet adoptable pets** who need loving homes.



Throughout the event, lawn games will also be provided for guests to play while they listen to “pup music” from the Arch Bark DJ. After working up an appetite at the Paws on Pavement Walk, visitors can chow down on some delicious “treats” from Pour Decisions, Wok-O Taco and The MOObile Smash Burgers & MOOre. Also, learn how Purina is committed to the health of pets and the planet at their booth.

“Gateway Arch Park Foundation believes the Arch belongs to everyone, and that includes our favorite canine companions,” said Ryan McClure, Executive Director, Gateway Arch Park Foundation. “We are thankful to our partners at Purina for sponsoring this event once again, helping us continue to bring free events to Downtown St. Louis that reflect our community.”

"Arch Bark provides St. Louisans the perfect opportunity to celebrate our love of dogs in our iconic hometown national park," said Kim Beardslee, Director of Community Affairs at Nestlé Purina PetCare Company. "We're proud to support Gateway Arch Park Foundation and to continue bringing people and pets together."

Arch Bark is one of the many pet-friendly events hosted by Gateway Arch Park Foundation and Gateway Arch National Park. The National Park Service’s B.A.R.K. Ranger program invites family pets to serve as ambassadors for responsible and safe pet handling at Gateway Arch National Park and other national parks across the country. B.A.R.K stands for: Bag your pet’s waste, Always leash your pet, Respect wildlife, and Know where you can go.

To find a full schedule of Arch Bark activities or to find out how you can support the Foundation’s mission, visit <https://www.archpark.org/events/ArchBark>.

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About Gateway Arch Park Foundation

Gateway Arch Park Foundation is the official philanthropic partner and conservancy for Gateway Arch National Park. Its mission is to ensure the Gateway Arch, its grounds, neighboring public spaces, and attractions are a vital, welcoming, well-supported resource to the community and nation for generations to come. It seeks to fulfill its mission by providing for ongoing conservation, preservation and education at the park, in addition to hosting, facilitating and promoting community programs that bring the park and its surrounding areas in Downtown St. Louis to life. The Foundation is part of an alliance that helps meet this mission, which includes the National Park Service, Bi-State Development, Great Rivers Greenway,



Jefferson National Parks Association, and the City of St. Louis. For more information, visit <http://archpark.org>.

About Nestlé Purina PetCare

Nestlé Purina PetCare creates richer lives for pets and the people who love them. Founded in 1894, Purina has helped dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives by offering scientifically based nutritional innovations. Purina manufactures some of the world's most trusted and popular pet care products, including Purina ONE, Pro Plan, Friskies and Tidy Cats. Our more than 10,000 U.S. associates take pride in our trusted pet food, treat and litter brands that feed 46 million dogs and 68 million cats every year. More than 500 Purina scientists, veterinarians, and pet care experts ensure our commitment to unsurpassed quality and nutrition.

Purina promotes responsible pet care through our scientific research, our products, and our support for pet-related organizations. Over the past five years, Purina has contributed more than \$150 million towards organizations that bring, and keep, people and pets together, as well as those that help our communities and environment thrive.

Purina is part of Nestlé, a global leader in Nutrition, Health and Wellness. For more information, visit purina.com or [subscribe here](#) to get the latest Purina news.