



Exhibits

Media contact:
Shedd Aquarium Public Relations
(312) 692-3265

A WALK ALONG THE COAST

Fact Sheet about the Oceanarium

The **Oceanarium**'s Pacific Northwest coastal setting transports guests more than 2,000 miles from downtown Chicago, bringing them face-to-face with the natural habitat of dolphins, whales, sea otters and seals. When building the **Oceanarium**, Shedd chose the Pacific Northwest ecosystem for several reasons. First, Shedd Aquarium wants guests to become more sensitized to the plight of North America's vanishing temperate rain forests and encourage each visitor to support the protection and conservation of these fragile environments. Second, marine mammals found in the Pacific Northwest include species such as beluga whales, Pacific white-sided dolphins and Alaska sea otters — animals that many people from Chicago and the Midwest may never have an opportunity to see in the wild.

Because of the expertise of the men and women who work in the **Oceanarium**, Shedd Aquarium has solidified its role as a leader on issues such as animal care, research and conservation.

ANIMALS IN THE OCEANARIUM:

Beluga whales; Pacific white-sided dolphins; Alaska sea otters; harbor seals; rockhopper and gentoo penguins; tide pool fishes; and invertebrates.

OCEANARIUM HABITATS:

Whale Harbor	2 million gallons	Otter Cove	40,000 gallons
Secluded Bay	400,000 gallons	Veterinary pool	35,000 gallons
Misty Passage	200,000 gallons	Seal Bight	11,000 gallons
Penguin Shore	60,000 gallons	Tide pool	1,000 gallons

OCEANARIUM TEMPERATURES:

Air:	68 degrees Fahrenheit	Penguin Shore maintains an air temperature
Water:	55 degrees Fahrenheit	just below 40 degrees Fahrenheit and a water

DAILY DIET:

Together, the animals in the **Oceanarium** consume approximately 650 pounds of herring, mackerel, pollack, smelt, squid, shellfish and other restaurant-quality seafood each day.

EAST FACADE WINDOWS:

A curtain wall of 215 windows stretches 475 feet from the east facade of the **Oceanarium**, offering a sweeping vista of Lake Michigan.

UNDERWATER VIEWING GALLERY:

Ten acrylic windows in the underwater gallery are 20 feet wide and 7 feet high.