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## **Baby Antelope Ready to Meet Zoo Guests**

ABILENE, TEXAS - The Blue Duiker antelope born on July 7th has moved, along with his mother, into the duiker exhibit at Giraffe Safari. "He's gaining weight and has grown strong and is ready to meet the other duikers and the Kori bustards who share his exhibit." Says Zoo Executive Director Bill Gersonde.

Named "Maji," the first Blue Duiker born at the Abilene Zoo entered the world on a big day: when the water main broke, July 7. That's how he earned his name. It means "water" in Swahili. Blue Duikers are tiny antelope that graze on the plains of Africa, which is why the zoo's duikers live in the Giraffe Safari area. Maji weighed less than a pound at birth and currently weighs 1,100 grams. Extremely shy, guests may need to spend a little time locating this elusive little antelope in his naturalistic exhibit.

About the Abilene Zoo: The Abilene Zoo is home to more than 1000 animals of 250 different species. The zoo is open 7 days a week (closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last admittance is 4 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$4.50 for children ages 3-12, \$6 for seniors aged 60+. Members are admitted free. Memberships start at \$35. [www.abilenezoo.org](http://www.abilenezoo.org). 325-676-6085. Mission Statement: The Abilene Zoo is a place of learning and adventure, where families make memories, share the joy of discovery and become inspired to preserve wildlife.