



Zoos and Aquariums Take Action

Fun Facts

Canadian Zoos and Aquariums

- ⌘ 24 accredited Canadian zoos/aquariums, from British Columbia to New Brunswick, form the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA)
- ⌘ CAZA members develop and participate in hundreds of conservation projects each year
- ⌘ CAZA Institutions participate in over 100 Species Survival Plans, North American breeding-management plans, operated by the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)
- ⌘ Toronto Zoo is Canada's largest zoo with over 14,000 animals and 710 acres of exhibits, trails, and natural space
- ⌘ Bowmanville Zoo, in Bowmanville, Ontario is Canada's oldest private zoo, dating back to 1919
- ⌘ Ontario has the most CAZA zoos (seven) but has no aquariums!

Conservation

- ⌘ Toronto Zoo released 15 black-footed ferrets back into the wild in 2003, as part of its on-going black-footed ferret breeding and reintroduction program. The remaining 9 ferrets born in 2003 will be used in the breeding program.
- ⌘ Vancouver Island marmots are the most endangered animals in North America. There are fewer than 30 Vancouver Island marmots left in the wild today. In 2002, 13 Vancouver Island marmot pups were born at Toronto Zoo and are destined to return to their native habitat
- ⌘ The Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre provides veterinary care and rehabilitation to injured turtles in Ontario. They treated 66 turtles in 2003, many of which will return to the wild this summer
- ⌘ Over 18 000 Puerto Rican crested toadlets were returned to the wilds of Puerto Rico in 2003 as part of the Puerto Rican crested toad breeding program and SSP

Take Action

- ⌘ Volunteers for the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, organized by the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre, clean over 950km of shoreline and collect almost 50,000kg of garbage at this yearly event!
- ⌘ The Pacific Leatherback Turtle Awareness and Sightings Network and the Nova Scotia Leatherback Turtle Working Group collect turtle observations from Canadians on the east and west coasts through the Internet. In the summer of 1998, members of the Nova Scotia Leatherback Turtle Working Group logged 171 sightings of these turtles, establishing the species as a seasonal visitor to Atlantic Canada. Turtle "Jesse" was tagged in August 2003 and has travelled over 4000km since then – all the way to South America!
- ⌘ Kids 4 Turtles was started by a group of youngsters concerned about turtles crossing roads. The group raised funds for permanent turtle crossing signs and has grown into the successful Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre, a veterinary hospital dedicated to injured wild turtles. It just goes to show – anyone, no matter what age they are can make a big difference!