



Toronto Zoo 2008 Annual Report

our living planet

working to create
a better world





2008



answering the call of the wild

vision of the Toronto Zoo


The Toronto Zoo is Canada's premier zoo, known for its interactive education and conservation activities. As a unique wildlife experience, we inspire people to live in ways that promote the well being of the natural world.

the Toronto Zoo's green vision

Our vision toward a green and sustainable future will include

- eco-ethical partnerships
- green funding plans
- green staff culture
- promotion of green programs and achievements
- sustainable energy use and production

green is growing!



In 2007, the Toronto Zoo made a bold commitment to making a difference in conservation and environmental stewardship with its Green Plan. The Zoo's efforts are making us a green leader in 2008 and beyond. A wide range of initiatives is making a difference, from cutting food service waste to supporting both local and global conservation efforts to joining environmental crisis initiatives.

In 2008, the Zoo was involved in several international efforts to address natural emergencies. Year of the Frog, for example, focused attention on the rapidly diminishing amphibian populations worldwide and the Zoo helped to raise money and awareness for this cause. The Zoo was also directly involved in rescue efforts to help save the Panamanian golden frog. Our partnership with Seafood Watch educates the public and encourages people to make environmentally responsible choices about what seafood they buy.

The Zoo's Green Plan continues to unfold with ambitious reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, ramped up efforts to reduce waste in all areas, continued green purchasing policies, environmental project management standards, funding for green projects, active participation in preserving our local Rouge Park ecosystem and expanded green education programs.



answering the call of the wild continued

exciting new projects take shape

New and improved exhibit areas were under development in 2008. Our new Great Barrier Reef exhibit opened last summer, with much excitement over the beautiful jellyfish, community and lion-fish tanks. The addition expands our collection of fascinating underwater creatures.

The new ultra-efficient geothermal heating system in the outdoor lion-tailed macaque exhibit was completed, demonstrating one of the greenest heating technologies around - to the delight of both visitors and monkeys!

The much-anticipated Tundra Trek continued to progress towards the opening target of August 2009. The huge new exhibit area will be home to a completely redesigned polar bear habitat that's five times the size of the previous one, with an environmentally-friendly green roof. Other Tundra Trek residents will include Arctic wolves, Arctic fox, reindeer, snowy owls and snow geese.

our Zoo family expands

Everyone loves Zoo babies and this year we saw lots of new little faces! Four cheetah cubs arrived in July to everyone's delight. The Zoo also welcomed baby golden-lion tamarins, sugar gliders, a Grevy's zebra, two Vancouver Island marmots, a prehensile-tailed porcupine, a Bactrian camel, black-breasted leaf turtles, 34 black-footed ferrets, brown banded bamboo sharks and kuda seahorses, to name a few. Adult newcomers included adult lowland gorilla Ngozi, a Bennett's wallaby and a swamp wallaby, several wood bison, a wrinkled hornbill, Eastern Massasauga rattlesnakes, and many others. Babies are vital to the continued conservation efforts at the Zoo and we are proud to be able to nurture new members of endangered and threatened species.

the action never stops!

From fun seasonal events to special exhibits, such as our popular Stingray Bay - A Touching Experience, there's always something new and exciting happening at the Zoo. Whether it's a visit to a tropical rainforest in the middle of winter or a memorable summer camping night within roaring distance of lions, the Zoo keeps families coming back for more. With interesting keeper talks, delightful busker fun, engaging musical performances, animal demonstration, the Zoo is always fun for everyone!



Toronto
loves
the Zoo!



message from the Chair and CEO



Councillor Raymond Cho
Chair, Toronto Zoo Board
of Management

strong support for Toronto Zoo

Throughout 2008, the Zoo's leadership in conservation, wildlife education and as the destination of choice for families was stronger than ever. The Zoo enjoyed outstanding community support with 1,315,649 visitors for the year. The membership base remained solid with over 31,000 households. Over 140,000 children attended in school groups from simple tours to special curriculum based programs. New and existing educational activities continued to pique the interest of visitors and were fully booked, in programs such as the Zoo's popular Zoo Camps for kids 4-16 and our overnight Serengeti Bush Camp experience.

a leap of faith for amphibians

The Zoo "leapt" into 2008 with our commitment to Year of the Frog - a worldwide conservation initiative to raise awareness of the amphibian crisis. Toronto Zoo has an outstanding reputation for its conservation of amphibian species with work being undertaken locally and internationally by our talented and respected curators and educators. With the many activities and events highlighting Year of the Frog this past year, many more of our visitors now understand the perils facing amphibians. The combined efforts of zoos around the world and the people that visit them clearly showed that something can be done to ensure a healthy earth.



Calvin White
Chief Executive Officer,
Toronto Zoo

in excellent company

We are happy to report that the Toronto Zoo once again received accreditation for the next five years from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Accreditation is a rigorous review process undertaken by a group of experts in the zoo and aquarium field to ensure that the facility meets very high standards on a variety of measures. Toronto Zoo first became an accredited member in AZA in 1977. In the panel's 2008 review, highlights included a number of Toronto Zoo successes and noted that "the Toronto Zoo is an outstanding leader in cooperative conservation programs locally, provincially, nationally and internationally". The report commended the Zoo for its exceptional Elephant Management program, comprehensive Animal Care instructions manual and impressive Green Plan. The Toronto Zoo is one of only 218 accredited zoos and aquariums in North America. The Zoo is also an accredited member of the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA), which has an accreditation process similar to that of the AZA.





message from the Chair and CEO continued



the green story continues

The Zoo's Green Plan is well underway and one initiative that stands out is the opening in February of our first geothermal heated and cooled exhibit. Our thanks to the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, GeoExperts and Bullfrog Power who generously supported the Zoo to create this carbon neutral exhibit for the lion-tailed macaques. In the winter, be sure to stop by and see this system in action with a warm surface on which the macaques can enjoy their full exhibit.

new at the Zoo

The Zoo is always undergoing renewal and growth, and in 2008 many projects to improve our facilities behind the scenes and for visitor enhancement were completed. In addition, construction continued on the new 10-acre Tundra Trek.

In May, we were delighted to re-open the refurbished Australasia Pavilion featuring the stunning new Great Barrier Reef aquaria with live coral, moon jellyfish, sea horses, as well as a seven-metre-long community tank with thousands of reef species. This well-loved pavilion also received a major facelift on the exterior including a green roof. The Zoo also hosted a special short-term exhibit, Stingray Bay - A Touching Experience - the first of its kind in Ontario. Over 320,000 visitors enjoyed this interactive experience during the Zoo's peak season.

a great future

In preparation for the Zoo's exciting future growth and renewal, the Board determined the need to restructure fundraising to a development model used commonly in many other zoos, cultural institutions and universities. In order to adopt this model, the Zoo assumed the fundraising programs from the Toronto Zoo Foundation. On behalf of the Board of Management, we would like to thank the many volunteers who served with the Foundation over the years and whose commitment helped to develop the Zoo into the world-class organization that it is today. We also thank our loyal and valued donors who so generously support the important conservation, education and research work that we do as a steward of endangered species and habitats, an innovator and leader in conservation and a living classroom for real life experiences and lessons in helping to save our planet. Finally, on behalf of the Zoo Board of Management, we thank all of our devoted staff and volunteers who make learning about our natural environment a fun and inspiring experience for the whole family all year round.



creating
excitement
for our
natural world




marketing and communications

a commitment to our planet

2008 was an important year for the Zoo and the many challenges that we face in the natural world around us. Overall, an impressive 1,315,649 people visited the Zoo last year, which was the second highest attendance in the past 13 years, despite an especially rainy summer. The Zoo's message of conservation and environmental protection is becoming increasingly relevant as more and more people realize the importance of caring for our planet. The Zoo not only protects endangered species, we also promote environmental sustainability both through education and by our own actions here at the Zoo.

underwater encounters



Two highlights of the 2008 marketing effort were the compelling Stingray Bay - A Touching Experience special exhibit and the opening of the beautiful Great Barrier Reef exhibit. Visitors to Stingray Bay were able to see and touch the amazingly graceful cownose and red southern stingrays as they glided by, all within the safety of a large, specially constructed 60,000 gallon low-walled, free form pool. Over 320,000 Zoo visitors paid an extra \$3 to experience these beautiful creatures! The Great Barrier Reef exhibit, with its seven-metre, multi-species community tank, elegant jellyfish tank and environmentally-friendly green roof opened to great enthusiasm.

amphibious awareness

The Year of Frog was a major event for the Zoo that encompassed a number of areas. The official launch of Year of the Frog on Leap Day included the opening of the Zoo's Amphibian Rescue Centre attended by The Honourable Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources. Our special March Break exhibit, "Frogzibitz", included activities and displays designed to educate families about frogs and other amphibians, and their global endangerment. The annual Spring Toad Festival in May drew attention to our own fragile amphibian population with opportunities to learn about frogs and toads, and to get involved in protecting them. In early November, the Zoo organized a fun-filled attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most leap-froggers that had Zoo visitors and staff leap-frogging their way to fame!

fundraising initiatives

This past year, the Zoo played host to a number of fundraising events. These events raise the profile of the Zoo, create goodwill, generate valuable media coverage and attract new



marketing and communications continued

visitors to the Zoo. The Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis, the McGregor Socks Make-A-Wish Scavenger Hunt and our own Zoo fundraiser, the Oasis Zoo Run, were all great fund-raising success stories.

focus on environmental issues

The Zoo's green leadership is more important than ever now. With environmental issues in the forefront, the Zoo presents ongoing conservation and nature-oriented events designed to create appreciation for and knowledge of our natural world. Our Party for the Planet and Greenfest Earth Day celebrations, Rattlesnake Workshop, International Migratory Bird Day, Western Lowland Gorilla presentation, Orangutan Awareness Weekend, and two Elephant Open Houses are just a few examples of how the Zoo promotes living in harmony with our natural environment.

fun happens all year long

There's always something fun happening at the Zoo! Throughout the year, the Zoo creates great reasons for visitors and members to keep coming back. Love at the Zoo, the Annual Easter "Egg" Stravaganza, Mother's and Father's Days events, our Annual Wild Toy Animal Hospital, Canada Day celebrations, Senior's Day, Boo at the Zoo, Christmas Treats Walk, Santa Visits and our annual New Year's Eve Family Countdown all make for exciting fun throughout the year. There were lots of members' events too, such as our popular annual Zoo photo contest and members-only previews of Stingray Bay - A Touching Experience and the Great Barrier Reef exhibit.

partners and sponsors

Working together with partners and sponsors has proven to be a rewarding and important part of keeping the Zoo vibrant and relevant. One of our partners is Seafood Watch, a program that educates consumers about which types of seafood to buy to support sustainable seafood sources that don't harm surrounding ecosystems. We also had another successful year with partner, Delta Toronto East hotel, with a radio campaign targeting US border markets, Ottawa, Kingston, Niagara, Kitchener and London helped to keep interest high throughout the peak season.

Our media partners such as CTV, EZ Rock, Toronto Star and 98.1 CHFI, along with loyal sponsors Zellers, Hbc, Coca-Cola, Hershey Canada, Today's Parent and YTV WOW on Wheels all provide terrific ongoing opportunities to promote and publicize the Zoo along with our multi-media advertising campaigns created by creative and media planning/buying partners Lowe Roche and ZenithOptimedia.






a greener
world,
from the
ground up



conservation, education and research

the conservation message



As the Zoo's Green Plan takes shape, conservation at the Zoo gained increased importance in 2008. With the Year of the Frog initiative, for example, the fragile state of the world's amphibious population came into focus. Our program to help rescue the severely endangered Panamanian golden frog continued this past year. As with many frogs around the world, this tiny rainforest dweller's existence is threatened by the fungal infection, chytridiomycosis or chytrid. Not only does the Zoo support local rescue centres for this species and other amphibians, the Zoo is also an important part of the international rescue mission known as the Amphibian Ark. Through this initiative, zoos and aquariums around the world maintain colonies of the most endangered amphibian species, with the intent of releasing them into the wild.

reintroducing black-footed ferrets

Several years ago, in partnership with Parks Canada, US Fish & Wildlife Service, private stakeholders and other organizations, the Zoo established a joint Black-footed Ferret/Black-tailed Prairie Dog Canadian Recovery Team to look at the potential for reintroducing black-footed ferrets into Canada. Black-footed ferrets disappeared from Canada several decades ago. The release site in Grasslands National Park, Saskatchewan could support Canada's first wild population of black-footed ferrets. After an extensive effort on many fronts, plans came together in 2008 for a reintroduction of the species into Grasslands National Park in the fall 2009. The Zoo has also been involved in a black-footed ferret breeding program that introduces them into the wild in the US. With any luck, Canada will soon have its own population of this once-extinct species.

lion-tailed macaques warm up to green

The lion-tailed macaque exhibit got warmer - and greener - this past year, thanks to a new geothermal energy project that uses the earth's heat to keep the exhibit floor warm. Up until last year, the semi-tropical primates relied on a single electric radiant heater for warmth during their outdoor play sessions, causing social disruptions amongst the troop as more dominant monkeys took the warmest spots. Now the whole floor is heated with a new, efficient geothermal system that creates the least environmental impact of any heating technology.



conservation, education and research continued

the green learning curve

Recently, much attention has focused on the lack of outdoor experiences for youth and the consequences of nature deficit. The Zoo is in a remarkable position to provide these opportunities for all ages, introducing visitors to the splendor of our native flora and fauna as well as plants and animals from around the world.

making the Zoo accessible

This year, with support of grant funding, the Zoo offered a variety of education programs to students from underserved neighbourhoods. TELUS and an anonymous donor sponsored 1,600 students to attend a four-hour, curriculum-based workshop at the Zoo.

Operation Conservation, a special program for grade six students, was made possible with grants from The Geoffrey H. Wood Foundation, Tippet Foundation and The Carroll Family Foundation. Operation Conservation, an award winning program that has been operating since 2002 enables small groups of students to experience the Zoo over a two-day period in a very hands-on and intimate way. In 2008, 226 students were introduced to curriculum topics by interacting with keepers, veterinarians and other staff who work in a variety of areas within the Zoo. It is an experience that will remain with them for life.

With funds from an anonymous donor, fifteen youth from the Mount Dennis Community were treated to a week of Zoo Camp including an overnight stay at Bush Camp. Their families joined them on the final day of camp.

nurturing the next generation of educators

The Education Branch hosted 19 post secondary level students from a variety of universities and colleges and from a number of different disciplines. Two Bachelor of Education interns from Queen's University served for three weeks developing educational computer games. A third Queen's intern developed and delivered a training program on Social Justice for seasonal Zoo staff. One Bachelor of Education intern from York University assisted with the Operation Conservation program. Two interns from Ryerson University's Early Childhood Education program developed conservation activities for students in Costa Rica. Three University of Ontario Institute of Technology interns and five OISE interns updated self-guided tours. Four Early Childhood Education interns from Ryerson University and one from Trent University assisted with four weeks of Zoo Camp.





conservation, education and research continued

school connections

Over 10,000 students attended a four-hour curriculum-based workshop in 2008. Program evaluations are consistently positive. As a grade six teacher from Tam O'Shanter Public School wrote, "This was my first trip to the Zoo where I participated in a program. I would definitely do it again. Our workshop presenter was very knowledgeable and it made the trip really interesting and interactive."

Teacher Days are held twice a year in March and September and teachers respond very positively. They have the opportunity to visit the Education Centre, chat with education staff and take part in a guided tour. A total of 3,696 teachers participated in 2008. This provides an opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of a Zoo field trip to enhance classroom curriculum.

Working with the Biodiversity Education and Awareness Network (BEAN) and the Education and Awareness for a Sustainable Ontario (EASO), Zoo staff provided input into reorienting the elementary and secondary science curriculum to reflect sustainability issues. In keeping with the Zoo's strong mandate to work toward a sustainable future, the Education Branch completed the two-year process to become certified as an accredited Eco School.

learning without knowing it!

Zoo camps remain as wildly popular as ever. In 2008 Zoo Camp became an accredited member of the Ontario Camps Association confirming the camp's high standards in the areas such as programming, staffing, and health and safety. Zoo Camp is a day camp for 6 to 16 year olds held in weekly session throughout July and August. Through a variety of exciting topics for different age groups we aim to stimulate an interest in wildlife, encourage exploration and social interaction and offer a positive and friendly learning environment. Zoo Kids is a half-day program for 4 and 5 year olds. This camp is designed to provide children with an exciting opportunity to explore the natural world in a fun, safe, organized and comfortable atmosphere. All staff is carefully selected for their experience working with children and offer great enthusiasm, positive encouragement and appropriate activities for a memorable time at camp. The two camps combined, hosted 2,000 children in 2008.





conservation, education and research continued

learning for everyone

Serengeti Bush Camp has developed a following with “first time campers”; 3,393 adventurous participants of all ages took part in 2008. The program offers a virtually hassle free way to experience the great outdoors complete with behind-the-scenes tours to visit elephants and giraffe and nighttime campfires. All one needs to bring is a sleeping bag, pillow and toiletries - everything else is supplied!

A suite of public programs targeted to different audiences was offered throughout the year. Seven hundred scouts, guides, brownies and cubs earned one of 14 conservation-oriented badges. Six hundred family members attended the Parent and Tot program, which introduces very young children to nature with animal visits and group activities. A new breakfast program was developed to complement the special Stingray Bay! exhibit. Seven hundred participants over the course of the summer were thrilled with the early morning stingray feeding experience, an informative talk, and a continental breakfast.

research makes the difference

The Toronto Zoo is a leading research institution, with partners from academia and government and non-government sectors. Important research that helps further conservation and sustain endangered species all over the world happens right here at the Zoo, led primarily by our own Zoo staff.

Reproductive biology is one research area that the Zoo excels at, and our staff has developed an international reputation for clean, precise and rigorous science. Some examples of projects continuing or initiated in 2008 include artificial insemination in camels, reproductive compatibility and reproduction signals in elephants, reproductive potential in the rare Amur tiger and captive breeding enhancement in green water dragons.

Our veterinarians and their staff, including interns and post-doctoral students from academia, also conduct excellent research on our collection and wild populations. Toronto Zoo vet staff has led the charge for the assessment of disease risk in the extirpated (Canada) black-footed ferret and the real-time assessment of disease risk in wild populations of Grevy's zebra in Kenya.



**Volunteers
make the Zoo
experience
richer**



volunteers

making great things happen

The Zoo is fortunate to have a large group of dedicated and knowledgeable individuals who give their time freely to further our conservation mandate. Volunteers donated 27,858 hours of their time to the Zoo and contacted approximately 666,906 people over the past twelve month period. In 2008, two volunteers were recognized for serving 30 years, one for 25 years and four others for 20 years. This outstanding commitment is truly remarkable and much appreciated.

Volunteers fall into three categories. Year Round Volunteers dedicate one day a week to the Zoo after a 13-day training course over a three-month period. They are capable of carrying out any of the educational roles including: guided tours, student workshops, touch tables and outreach presentations in the community. Summer Information Volunteers are recruited to provide extra assistance during the busy summer season. Zoo Ambassadors are students in high school or post secondary schools who lend a hand at special events and Zoo Kids Camp. In 2008, 32 people completed the year round training, 58 became Summer Information Volunteers and 32 students were recruited to become Zoo Ambassador Volunteers.

a commitment to green

To support the Zoo's strong role in sustainability education, the criteria for recruiting volunteers became more stringent in 2008. As well as a passion for teaching and a keen interest in conservation, knowledge of basic biology, environmental issues and a personal commitment to "green" practices became important recruitment criteria.

our irreplaceable volunteers!

Volunteers are responsible for delivering many programs including guided tours, special events and interpretation at dozens of educational exhibits. In 2008, volunteers were also asked to carry out animal observation at several exhibits, a highly prized activity for volunteers. At the Indo-Malayan Pavilion, behaviour of the fishes in the large communal tank was recorded to assess aggression among the different species. Observation of the gorilla troop took place over several weeks to record any unusual behaviour toward a newly introduced female gorilla.





volunteers continued



reaching out

Volunteers present outreach programs to schools, day cares, seniors' residences and other community groups. A portion of the fee charged for these events is directed to a Volunteer Fund, which is used to support volunteer activities. In 2008 the funds were used to upgrade the Conservation Connection Centre - a great place for visitors to learn more about conservation issues and help motivate them towards changing their lifestyles for the benefit of the environment.

Polar Bear International Leadership Camp

In October one of our student volunteers joined 12 other students from around the world to attend the Polar Bear International Leadership Camp in Churchill, Manitoba and witness the fall migration of polar bears. During the week-long camp, students experienced the tundra in person; met field scientists and community members; observed polar bears in their natural habitat and reported back to their classmates, families and the world via a daily blog.

The Volunteer program is a valuable asset to the Zoo that furthers our education and conservation mandate with the public. The program benefits from a stable and long-term group of volunteers who are deeply committed to the work of the Zoo and most importantly, thoroughly enjoy interacting with our visitors of all ages

status of live collections as of December 31, 2008

(not including domestic species)

| | Mammals | Birds | Reptiles | Amphibians | Fish | Inverts | TOTAL |
|--------------------|---------|-------|----------|------------|------|---------|-------|
| orders | 12 | 19 | 4 | 2 | 18 | 25 | 80 |
| families | 35 | 51 | 21 | 11 | 41 | 45 | 204 |
| species | 92 | 110 | 58 | 24 | 112 | 86 | 482 |
| specimens | 581 | 342 | 227 | 108 | 317 | 202 | 1777 |
| # in groups | 0 | 0 | 14 | 36 | 3639 | 538 | 4227 |
| grand total | 581 | 342 | 241 | 144 | 3956 | 740 | 6004 |

Important
research and
conservation
projects around
the world



research

research projects supported by the Toronto Zoo 2008

Toronto Zoo

- 1 Alpaca Reproduction Research
- 2 Artificial Insemination of Camels
- 3 Behavioural and Physiological Effects of Surgically Implanted Transmitters on Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnakes
- 4 Controlling Invasive Ants through the Ants' Natural Behaviour
- 5 Critical Habitat Use by Turtles in the Rouge Valley
- 6 Developing a Preservation Technique for Browse
- 7 Elephant Contraceptive Study
- 8 Elephant Nutrition Study
- 9 Evaluation of a New Cricket Diet Formulated to Provide Balanced Nutrition for Amphibians and Reptiles Using Crickets
- 10 Frog and Toad Capture (Backyard Ecology)
- 11 Gamete Rescue for Genetic Management
- 12 Gorilla Heart Study
- 13 Husbandry Training as a Tool to Reduce Spotted Necked Otter Stress
- 14 Monitoring Reptile Reproduction in Preparation for Contraceptive Trials
- 15 Nutrition and Development of the American Toad and the Puerto Rican Crested Toad
- 16 Pharmacokinetics of Penicillin G and Oxytetracycline in Tammar Wallabies
- 17 Primate Behaviour Study
- 18 Puerto Rican Crested Toad Vitamin A Study
- 19 Reptile Contraceptive Study
- 20 Research Program in Reproductive Compatibility
- 21 Reside Dace Study
- 22 Rouge River Turtle Study
- 23 Wood Bison Research

Canada

B.C.

- 24 Reptile Embryo Study
University of British Columbia

Saskatchewan

- 25 Assessment of Disease Risk for Black-footed Ferret Reintroductions in Grasslands
National Park, Saskatchewan

Ontario

- 26 The Effect of Allowing Service Dogs on Site at the Toronto Zoo
University of Guelph
- 27 Bat Vocalization Study
University Of Western Ontario
- 28 Peafowl Study
Queen's University
- 29 Black-footed Ferret Behaviour Study
University Of Guelph
- 30 Raccoon Leptospirosis Study
University Of Guelph
- 31 Axolotl Embryo Study
University Of Waterloo

United States

- 32 African Elephant Reproduction Signals And Responses Study
Georgia Southern University
Massachusetts
- 33 Dhole Vocalization Study
University Of Massachusetts - Amherst
Pennsylvania
- 34 Elephant Temperature Study
Pittsburgh Zoo
Omaha
- 35 Amur Tiger Reproduction
Henry Doorly Zoo
Indiana
- 36 Elephant Temperature Study
Indiana State University

U.K.

- 37 Primate Digit Study
University of Liverpool



projects supported by
the endangered species reserve fund 2008

Canada

Toronto Zoo & Ontario

- 1 Crayfish Research & Public Education
- 2 First Nations Turtle Island Conservation
- 3 Frog Crisis Rescue Centre
- 4 Golden Lion Tamarin Captive Breeding & Reintroduction
- 5 Great Lakes/Redside Dace Recovery
- 6 Ontario Road Ecology Group
- 7 Seahorse Captive Diet Research
- 8 Urban Turtle Initiative
- 9 Veiled Chameleon Reproduction Research
- 10 Wood Bison Reproductive Biology Study
- 11 Polar Bear Population Evaluation

Saskatchewan

- 12 Black-footed Ferret Research & Reintroduction

United States

- 13 Butterfly Conservation Initiative

Mexico

- 14 Axolotl Habitat Restoration

Russia

- 15 Amur Tiger and Leopard insitu conservation

China

- 16 Snow Leopard insitu conservation
- 17 Przewalski's Horse Satellite Tracking

Africa - international

- 18 Bushmeat Crisis Task Force
- 19 Bushmeat Awareness Project

East Africa

- 20 Grevy's Zebra Conservation & Education
- 21 Grevy's Zebra Disease Outbreak Prevention
- 22 Cichlids Conservation & Education
- 23 Elephant Barrier Construction

Central Africa

- 24 Nouabale-Ndoki Forest Reserve Programme
- 25 Gorilla Monitoring & Data Collection
- 26 Wildlife Protection Reinforcement
- 27 Primate Conservation
- 28 Pygmy Hippo Threat Assessment

South Africa

- 29 Cheetah Reintroduction
- 30 Cheetah Tick Study

Indonesia

- 31 False Gharial Population Survey
- 32 False Gharial Habitat Survey
- 33 Sumatran Tiger Reserve Site

International

- 34 Save the Rhino Campaign Support

1-11, 34 (Toronto Zoo & Ontario)

1 to 23, 26-31 (Toronto Zoo & Ontario)



■ research projects supported by the Toronto Zoo 2008 (listed left)

■ projects supported by the Zoo's Endangered Species Reserve Fund 2008 (listed above)

Helping
to save
our planet



supporters

supporting our precious environment

As Dian Fossey said, "When you realize the value of all life, you dwell less on what is past and concentrate more on the preservation of the future." As wild habitats diminish and the impact of climate change becomes more apparent, the natural world is increasingly threatened. More species than at any other time in our history are threatened with extinction, and the Toronto Zoo has a real and important role to play in helping to save these endangered lives.

Throughout 2008, our donors responded to the need to create a better future for all living things. Our role is to steward their generous gifts and to guide these valued resources to work hard and create positive change and impact. Here are a few examples of the projects supported by donations in 2008.

the ferrets are back!

Efforts to re-introduce the black-footed ferret back into the wild received a boost from our donors. These creatures, formerly pushed to the edge of extinction were saved through the efforts of captive breeding. With a stable population in captivity, the re-introduction program is progressing well. A major step was the decision to begin re-introduction for the first time back into Canada in Saskatchewan's Grasslands National Park beginning in the Fall of 2009.

wild Vancouver Island marmot pups born

The Vancouver Island marmot program continues to experience significant success with 81 pups born in 2008 within the four breeding facilities. The most exciting part is the confirmation of captive born and released "Toronto Zoo" marmots parenting their own wild born pups! The generosity of donors support has enabled this program to grow from very modest beginnings to a Canadian conservation success story!

supporting green projects

In keeping with the Zoo's Green Plan and the goal of being a "living" classroom, a ground-sourced geothermal heating and cooling system was installed in the Lion-tailed macaque exhibit. The renewable energy system provides heat for the outdoor exhibit in winter and cooling in summer. Visitors are encouraged to learn about the advantages of geothermal systems through signage and an interactive display.





supporters continued

reproductive technology

Toronto Zoo is at the forefront of the science of captive breeding for endangered species and is lending expertise to many other Canadian and international organizations to support these important initiatives. As our Zoo is home to Canada's only Animal Reproductive Physiologist, there is much work to do and the support of our donors helps to provide the necessary resources to accomplish tremendous breakthroughs in this important science. In 2008, the Animal Reproductive Physiology program continued to develop techniques to breed endangered species and enhance techniques for preserving DNA for the future.

sustaining animal health

Of course, the Animal Reproductive Physiology team also manages the reproductive needs of the animals in our care and with our donors and visitors, celebrated the birth of a number of endangered species including cheetah cubs; a Grevy's zebra; a Bactrian camel; and Przewalski's horses in 2008.

With a primary concern for the daily care of the 6,000 birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates in the Zoo collection, our donors continued to support animal health care and the equipment and training needs of Veterinary, nutritional and keeping staff.

education never ends

In the Zoo's role as an educator and a "living" classroom, we have a wonderful opportunity to reach visitors and students with lessons of sustainability and respect for all forms of life. In 2008 the support of our donors made it possible for us to continue to develop curriculum-based programs, provide camp and other zoo experiences to children of all ages and to engage and train students from high school participating in co-op programs to newly qualified vets training in zoo medicine. Support of programs such as Adopt-A-Pond has supported public forums, peer group idea exchanges, outreach opportunities and curatorial research projects.

Throughout 2008 we have been gratified by the continued support of our donors. Your gifts, your encouragement and most of all your understanding of the importance of conservation of our natural world, educating our children and others to steward and respect habitat and the need to continue to learn through research, is deeply appreciated. Thank you.



Zoo donors make the difference



our sincere thanks to all our generous donors

Grand Founders (\$1,000,000+)

McDonald's Restaurants of Canada
Zellers

Founders (\$500,000 - \$999,999)

Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Imperial Oil Foundation
ING DIRECT
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation

Benefactors (\$250,000 - \$499,999)

AGF Management Limited
HBC/The Bay/Zellers/Home Outfitters
RBC Foundation
The Coca-Cola Company

Guardians (\$100,000 - \$249,999)

Banrock Station Wetlands Foundation Canada
CIBC
Ducks Unlimited Canada
The Estate of Sofia Fellinger-Ihar
The Richard Ivey Foundation
The Joseph & Wolfe Lebovic Foundation
Milliken Meat Products Limited
Morris Animal Foundation
Northwest Funds Inc.
Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund
RBC Financial Group
Mr. Ralph F. D. Richardson
Rockscapes of Canada Inc.
Scotiabank
Scotts Canada Ltd.
TD Bank Financial Group
World Wildlife Fund

Conservators (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

The Estate of Mary Catherine Allen
Bank One, NA, Canada Branch
Bell Mobility
The Estate Of Margarete Boesert
Canadian Museums Association
Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd.
GE
General Motors of Canada
Henry White Kinnear Foundation
The K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation
Inco Limited
J.P. Bickell Foundation
Jack Freedman Fund
Maple Leaf Foods Inc.
Max Bell Foundation
McLean Foundation
Mr. Louis Odette
Ontario Power Generation
Ontario Streams
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Xerox Canada Inc.

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3M Canada Inc.
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Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.

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Our sincere thanks to all our generous donors

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financial highlights

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE TORONTO ZOO

Statement Of Operations And Net Assets

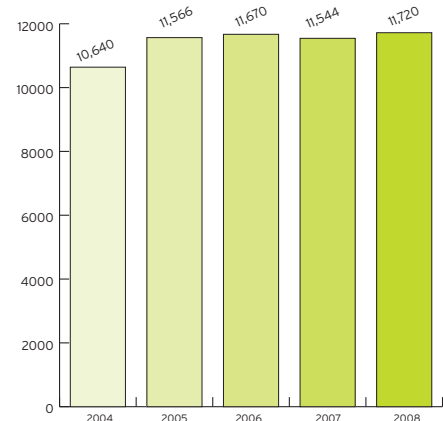
Year ended December 31

| | 2008 \$ | 2007 \$ |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| Funding from City of Toronto | | |
| General appropriation | 11,720,153 | 11,544,432 |
| Capital works contributions | - | 105,737 |
| Admission | 12,393,958 | 12,493,286 |
| Membership | 3,158,443 | 2,966,377 |
| Food services | 5,501,058 | 5,973,800 |
| Gift shop operations | 2,909,945 | 3,073,648 |
| Parking | 2,313,827 | 2,411,170 |
| Rides and rentals | 1,028,155 | 1,246,399 |
| Education programs | 788,376 | 727,989 |
| Funding from Toronto Zoo Foundation | 400,382 | 280,866 |
| Other revenue and recoveries | 573,345 | 714,234 |
| Interest | 41,194 | 56,047 |
| | 40,828,836 | 41,593,985 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Operations & administration | 20,796,372 | 21,780,323 |
| Conservation, education & research | 6,603,248 | 5,288,771 |
| Marketing & communications | 4,729,671 | 5,009,595 |
| Food services | 4,294,226 | 4,386,993 |
| Gift shop operations | 2,041,485 | 2,140,482 |
| General management | 1,335,666 | 1,844,096 |
| Amortization of capital assets | 377,749 | 186,017 |
| | 40,178,417 | 40,636,277 |
| Excess of expenses over revenue before the following | 650,419 | 957,708 |
| Transfer of excess funding to City of Toronto | (174,688) | (190,197) |
| Transfer from (to) City of Toronto related to change in employee future benefits payable | 648,933 | (377,989) |
| Excess of revenue over expenses for the year | 1,124,664 | 429,522 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | 2,150,276 | 1,720,754 |
| Net assets, end of year | 3,274,940 | 2,150,276 |

Note: The required information has been submitted in accordance with the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996

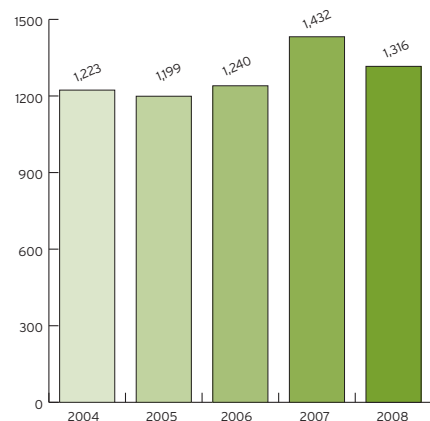
TORONTO ZOO

Net Operating Costs to the City of Toronto
2004 - 2008 (Excluding Capital Financing)
\$000's

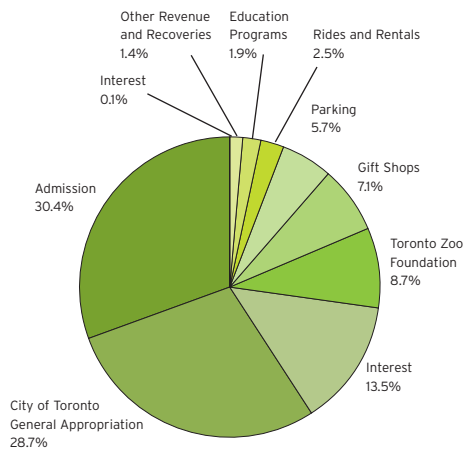


TORONTO ZOO

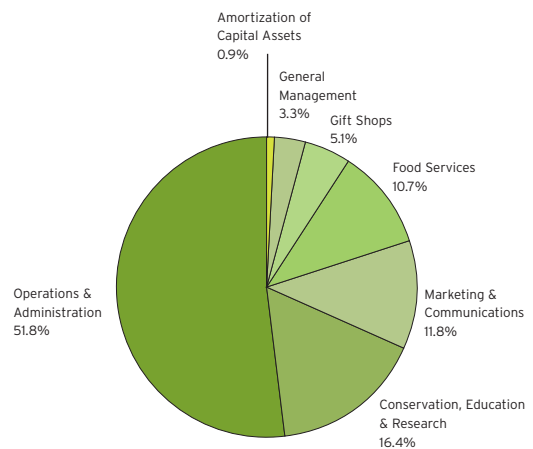
Visitor Attendance 2004 - 2008
000's



TORONTO ZOO Revenue 2008



TORONTO ZOO Expenses 2008



TORONTO ZOO FOUNDATION

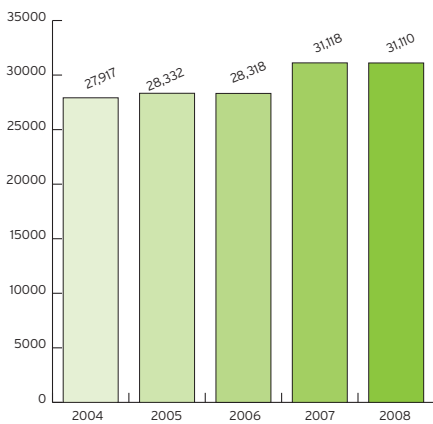
Statement of Revenue, Expenses, Contributions and Fund Balances

Year ended December 31

| | Unrestricted | | Restricted | | Endowment | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| REVENUE | | | | | | |
| Membership (transfer to Toronto Zoo) | 3,158,443 | 2,966,377 | - | - | - | - |
| Donations and annual giving | 557,201 | 837,994 | 144,460 | 35,883 | - | - |
| Special events | 20,379 | 28,088 | - | - | - | - |
| Investment income | - | 59,228 | - | 86,734 | - | - |
| Sponsorships | 204,826 | 214,467 | - | - | - | - |
| Programs and projects | - | - | 273,361 | 342,723 | - | - |
| "Window to the Wild" campaign | - | - | 39,732 | 99,318 | 52,000 | 2,000 |
| | 3,940,849 | 4,106,154 | 457,553 | 564,658 | 52,000 | 2,000 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | | |
| Donation processing | 162,119 | 242,610 | 1,566 | - | - | - |
| Special events | 700 | 1,122 | - | - | - | - |
| Membership | 758,809 | 723,405 | - | - | - | - |
| Personnel | 421,055 | 442,456 | - | - | - | - |
| Administrative | 411,722 | 86,245 | 12,541 | - | - | - |
| Investment loss | 380,743 | - | 572,526 | - | - | - |
| Investment management fees | 73,136 | 74,651 | - | - | - | - |
| | 2,208,284 | 1,570,489 | 586,633 | - | - | - |
| Excess of revenue over expenses before contributions to the Toronto Zoo operations, programs and projects | 1,732,565 | 2,535,665 | (129,080) | 564,658 | 52,000 | 2,000 |
| Contributions to the Toronto Zoo operations, programs and projects | 2,663,628 | 2,323,273 | 414,021 | 387,628 | - | - |
| Excess of revenue over expenses for the year | (931,063) | 212,392 | (543,101) | 177,030 | 52,000 | 2,000 |
| Fund balances, beginning of year | 3,960,852 | 3,162,766 | 3,262,764 | 2,778,178 | 3,605,702 | 3,068,330 |
| Change in accounting policy | - | 585,694 | - | 842,928 | - | - |
| Interfund transfers | - | - | 263,000 | (535,372) | (263,000) | 535,372 |
| Fund balances, end of year | 3,029,789 | 3,960,852 | 2,982,663 | 3,262,764 | 3,394,702 | 3,605,702 |

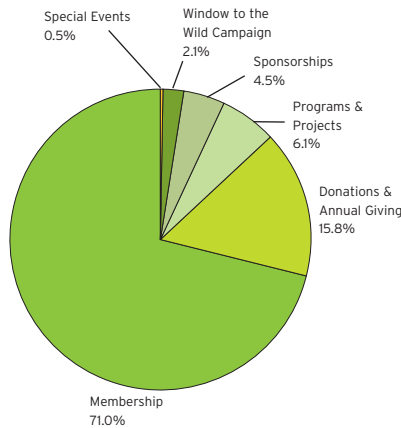
TORONTO ZOO FOUNDATION

Zoo memberships 2004 - 2008



TORONTO ZOO FOUNDATION

Revenue 2008



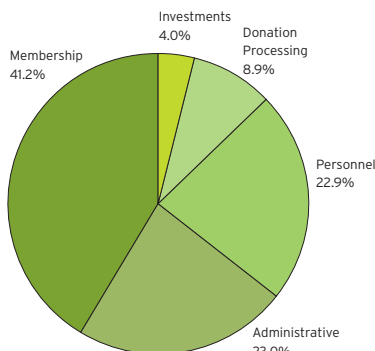
TORONTO ZOO FOUNDATION

Schedule of Contributions to the Toronto Zoo Programs and Projects Year ended December 31

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Zoo Operations | | |
| Animal Health Care | 2,399,634 | 2,242,973 |
| Sponsorship | 263,994 | 80,300 |
| | 2,663,628 | 2,323,273 |
| Education and Volunteer Programs | | |
| Education Programs | - | 15,150 |
| Volunteer Outreach | 55,338 | 6,485 |
| Veterinary Residency | - | 3,000 |
| Conservation Programs | 82,276 | 44,847 |
| Zoo Share | 2,570 | 8,976 |
| Veteran's Memorial | 84 | - |
| | 140,268 | 78,458 |
| Conservation Projects | | |
| Massasauga Rattlesnake | 985 | 104,115 |
| Endangered Species | 42,363 | 37,844 |
| Vancouver Island Marmot | 100 | 1,800 |
| Redside Dace | 15,000 | 26,500 |
| Adopt-A-Pond | 27,610 | 47,145 |
| Rouge Park Turtle Study | 7,990 | 12,000 |
| Black Footed Ferret | 2,000 | 9,000 |
| Lake Victoria Cichlid | 1,088 | 269 |
| Fish Collection | - | 5,000 |
| Aboriginal Programs | 107,400 | 10,000 |
| Fowlers Toad | - | 12,886 |
| Gorilla Presevation | 6,110 | - |
| Karner Blue Butterfly Recovery | 100 | - |
| | 210,746 | 266,559 |
| Research Projects | | |
| Reproductive Physiology | 28,809 | 18,216 |
| Nutrition Research | 32,398 | 21,070 |
| Animal Health Centre Equipment | 1,800 | 3,325 |
| | 63,007 | 42,611 |
| TOTAL | 3,077,649 | 2,710,901 |
| Allocated as follows | | |
| Unrestricted | 2,663,628 | 2,323,273 |
| Restricted | 414,021 | 387,628 |
| | 3,077,649 | 2,710,901 |

TORONTO ZOO FOUNDATION

Expenses 2008





publications

Toronto Zoo's published articles for 2008

ecology/field conservation/reintroduction

Walker, J., Zimmerman, L. and Rapley, W.A. TORONTO ZOO CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES REPORT. 2006-2007. April 2008

reproductive physiology/technology

Rubes, P., Musilova, G.F. and Mastromonaco, G. Cytogenetics of wild and captive bred non-domestic animals. CYTOGENETICS AND GENOME RESEARCH 120:61-68. 2008.

Durno, A., Hayden, S., Mackie, P., Mastromonaco, G. Cortisol as a potential mechanism of reproductive suppression in captive Vancouver Island marmots (*Marmota vancouverensis*). (Poster) 36TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN ONTARIO REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY WORKSHOP. 2008.

Kummrow, M., Mastromonaco, G., Paré, J. and Smith D.A. Characterization of the reproductive cycle in female veiled chameleons (*Chamaeleo calytratus*). PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO VETERINARIANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Los Angeles. Pp 163-164. 2008.

veterinary medicine/physiology

Attard, L.M., Carreno, R.A., Paré, J.A., Peregrine, A.S., Dutton, C.J., and Mason T.R. Mermithid nematode infection in a colony of blue-winged grasshoppers (*Tropidacris collaris*). JOURNAL OF ZOO AND WILDLIFE MEDICINE 239: 488-492. 2008.

Bertelsen, M. F., M. Kjølgaard-Hansen, J. R. Howell, and G. J. Crawshaw. Short-term biological variation of clinical chemical values in Dumeril's monitors (*Varanus dumerili*). JOURNAL OF ZOO AND WILDLIFE MEDICINE 38: 217-221. 2008.

Dutton C. J., R. E. Junge, E. E. Louis. Biomedical evaluation of free-ranging red ruffed lemurs (*Varecia rubra*) within the Masoala National Park, Madagascar. JOURNAL OF ZOO AND WILDLIFE MEDICINE 39: 76-85. 2008.

Kummrow, M., and Smith, D.A. Xanthomatosis in green water dragons. PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN VETERINARIANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE. Los Angeles 2008.

Kummrow, M.S., Tseng, F., Hesse, L., Court, M. Pharmacokinetics of buprenorphine after single-dose subcutaneous administration in red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*). JOURNAL OF ZOO AND WILDLIFE MEDICINE 39: 590-595. 2008.

McLelland, D.J., Dutton, C.J., Barker, I.K. Sarcomatoid carcinoma in the lung of an Egyptian fruit bat (*Rousettus aegyptiacus*). JOURNAL OF VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC INVESTIGATION 21: 161-163. 2008.

Paré, J.A. An overview of pentastomiasis in reptiles and other vertebrates. JOURNAL OF EXOTIC PET MEDICINE, 17: 285-294, 2008.

exhibits

Harpley, P. Towards the Future Zoo: The Evolution of Wild Animal-Keeping in Toronto. AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (ASEH) CONFERENCE, 2008.

Harpley, P. Exploring Differences - Finding Connections. CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION (CMA) ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 2008.





who's who at the Zoo

Toronto Zoo Board of Management 2008

Chair

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Vice-chair

Mr. Peter Evans (January - August)

Mr. Joe Torzsok (September - December)

Dr. Ming-Tat Cheung

Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

Councillor Mike Del Grande (January - August)

Councillor Norman Kelly

Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti

Mr. David Strickland (July - December)

Councillor Michael Thompson (January - September)

Dr. Dudley Williams

Toronto Zoo Senior Staff

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Mr. Calvin White

Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Robin Hale

Executive Director, Marketing & Communications

Ms. Shanna Young

Executive Director, Conservation, Education & Research

Dr. William Rapley

Director, Planning & Analysis

Ms. Susan Gunton

Director, Facilities & Services

Mr. Eric Morris



Toronto Zoo 2008 Annual Report

You CAN make a difference! Try these simple actions for a healthier world.

- **PARK THE CAR** Walk, cycle and use public transport to reduce emissions. The Zoo has over 12 km of beautiful walkways.
- **FOLLOW THE ZOO'S ENVIRONMENTAL PURCHASING POLICIES** by rejecting excess packaging, selecting products made from renewable resources and considering product lifespans.
- **INSTALL A BACKYARD OR APARTMENT COMPOST UNIT** The Zoo uses compost from staff rooms and on-site restaurants, the Animal Nutrition Centre plus animal manure (ZooPoo) to keep our gardens beautiful.
- **REPLACE INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS** with energy-saving compact fluorescents. What a bright idea!
- **AVOID SENDING CHEMICALS DOWN THE DRAIN** Use a "green" cleanser to preserve water quality. Zoo programs like Adopt-A-Pond and The Race to Save the Dace help improve water quality and habitat for wildlife and people.
- **INSTALL A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT**, which reduces energy consumption at night or when you are not home. The temperature in the Zoo's Administration buildings is controlled this way.
- **USE RECHARGEABLE OR SOLAR BATTERIES**, or better yet, avoid battery-operated items altogether. Drop off your old cell phone for recycling at the Zoo and help us save wild gorilla habitats.
- **AVOID HARSH INDUSTRIAL CLEANERS** Try this safe, effective formula instead: 125 ml (1/2 cup) pure soap, 4 litres (1 gallon) hot water and 60 ml (1/4 cup) lemon juice.
- **USE BARRELS AND DRUMS TO COLLECT RAIN WATER** for your flower or vegetable gardens. Turn your lawn into a wild flower garden. Visit our Butterfly Meadow in the Eurasia area of the Zoo.
- **CONSIDER A HYBRID VEHICLE** Our propane-powered Zoomobiles lower pollution and decrease Co₂ emissions.
- **FRESHEN AIR NATURALLY** with a mixture of 5 ml (1 tsp) lemon juice, 500 ml (2 cups) hot water, 5 ml (1 tsp) baking soda in a spray bottle.
- **FIX DRIPPING FAUCETS**, leaky pipes and running toilets to save gallons of wasted water.

**Get involved! Become a member of the Zoo and visit often,
or show your support with a donation to the Toronto Zoo.**

361A Old Finch Avenue
Scarborough, ON M1B 5K7
torontozoo.com

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phone 416-392-9100
fax 416-392-5863
email membership@torontozoo.ca

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phone 416-392-9114
email development@torontozoo.ca

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