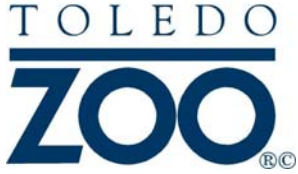




**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 25, 2008



## **Toledo Zoo Wins Green Award**

Toledo, Ohio—The Toledo Zoo's commitment to conservation was recognized on Thursday, April 24, as the Zoo received the Green Frog Award from the Lake Erie Western Alliance for Sustainability (LEWAS). This award, presented to the Zoo by Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon Wozniak, honors those who make the community greener, healthier and more sustainable.

In presenting this award to The Toledo Zoo, LEWAS cited the Zoo's many conservation efforts and overall dedication to green practices. The Toledo Zoo participates in numerous programs that protect endangered animals, including the Butterfly Conservation Initiative, which has made great strides on behalf of butterfly species that are native to this region. The Zoo's recycling efforts extend to more than thirty different items. The concession and catering departments have eliminated Styrofoam and offer only sustainable seafood options. In addition, most incandescent light bulbs have been replaced by compact fluorescent bulbs.

In 2006, the Zoo adopted its Principles of Green Construction, which will guide its building activities into the future. For example, as the parking lot is renovated, the ticket booths there will be wind and solar powered.

Through these and other activities, the Zoo hopes to set a green example to the entire community. Conservation messages are incorporated into the Zoo's employee orientations and staff briefings as well as on-grounds messaging and education programming. Through these efforts, the Zoo strives to make the entire community aware of the many ways that individuals can make a difference in protecting the environment.

The Toledo Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (10 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning May 1) and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit [www.toledozoo.org](http://www.toledozoo.org) or call (419) 385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge each Monday from 10 a.m. to noon. ID showing proof of residency is required.

*The Toledo Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Look for the AZA logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things. With its more than 200 accredited members, AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement.*

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