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Toledo Zoo to Host Two AZA Courses

Toledo, Ohio—In conjunction with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), The Toledo Zoo will host two courses this month that will demonstrate the Zoo's leadership in the zoo community and spotlight the Zoo's commitments to excellence in animal care and conservation. From April 11 to April 16, animal care specialists from around the country and around the world will convene at the Zoo for a course titled Advances in Animal Keeping. Then from April 17 through April 23, The Toledo Zoo will host the AZA's Amphibian Biology and Conservation Management School, which will also serve to further educate professionals from around the world.

The Advances in Animal Keeping course seeks to elevate the standards of animal care in AZA institutions through presentations, discussion and activities. Participants will gain new insights into animal husbandry, including training, enrichment and observation skills. In addition, they will learn about nutrition, geriatric care and more.

The Amphibian Biology and Conservation Management School includes lectures, hands-on workshops, and a field trip to view native amphibians. It will examine issues of amphibian biodiversity, the art and science of husbandry, reproduction, welfare and enrichment, amphibian conservation, as well as a host of other topics designed to help train the next generation of zoo and conservation biologists.

The need for amphibian conservation has never been greater, as countless amphibian populations have been lost to development. In addition, a deadly fungus known as chytrid has proven devastating around the world. The Toledo Zoo has been at the forefront of amphibian conservation, from the reintroduction of the Wyoming toad to the Laramie Basin to planning for the reintroduction of the Kihansi spray toad to its native Tanzania.

The Toledo Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit 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 committed to inspiring others to join in caring for animals and conserving the natural world. As part of that mission, The Toledo Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), a leader in global wildlife conservation. AZA member institutions are dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for visitors and a better future for all living things.

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