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Toledo Zoo Rates Top Ten in New Book

Toledo, Ohio—*America's Best Zoos*, a new book by Allen W. Nyhuis and Jon Wassner, reveals to the nation what folks around this region have known for years: that The Toledo Zoo has some of the finest animal exhibits in the nation! According to the book, The Toledo Zoo's *Africa!* exhibit and African Savanna, Aviary, Aquarium and Crawl Space exhibits ranked in the top ten among the zoos reviewed, competitive with such big-city institutions as the San Diego Zoo, the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., and Disney's Animal Kingdom.

America's Best Zoos profiles nearly 100 zoos and animal institutions throughout the country, detailing the exhibits and animals that make each organization a great family destination. In addition to the exhibits noted above many of The Toledo Zoo's exhibits are singled out for special acclaim, most notably the Arctic Encounter®, the Kingdom of the Apes and the Primate Forest. Among non-animal attractions, the authors point to the Carnivore Café, which offers visitors a chance to dine in the building that once housed lions and tigers, as an entertaining dining experience.

Many of the zoos reviewed in *America's Best Zoos* are part of reciprocal membership agreement with the Zoo. Zoo Members receive free or discounted admission at these Zoos, increasing the value of their membership as they travel the country.

Nyhuis and Wassner also note that Toledo is the smallest city in the nation to bring over one million visitors through its gates. In addition, the authors frequently refer to the WPA-era architecture that makes The Toledo Zoo such an essential part of this region's history.

The Toledo Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 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 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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