Association of Zoos & Aquariums Adopts FrogWatch USA Program

As many of you know, the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) is now leading the Frogwatch USA program. AZA is the accrediting body for the nation’s top zoos and aquariums. Learn more about AZA or find an AZA zoo or aquarium in your area at www.aza.org.

Two AmeriCorps members, Mandy Gaudreau and Nicole Mann, will help facilitate the program’s transition from National Wildlife Federation, where it was hosted from 2002-2008, to AZA. Mandy and Nicole are stationed at the Roger Williams Park Zoo (RWPZ) in Providence, R.I., and are available to answer any questions you may have about the FrogWatch USA program. AZA and FrogWatch USA welcome Mandy and Nicole, and thank AmeriCorps and RWPZ for their support.

Featured Frog

Green Frog (Rana clamitans)
The green frog is widespread throughout eastern North America. This species is a generalist and will live in ponds, swamps, springs, and brooks. Green frogs breed anywhere from March to August depending on their location. The very distinctive call of the green frog sounds like a plucking banjo string..."C-tung." This frog may already be calling in the southern part of the United States. Has anyone heard it yet?

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We want to hear from you!

Share your FrogWatching experiences with us and your fellow FrogWatchers! Send your stories and photos to mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org and you may see yourself in an upcoming FrogWatch newsletter! The newsletter will be published twice a month throughout the FrogWatching season and will posted at: www.aza.org/frogwatch.

Uppcoming Training Sessions

Learn more about FrogWatch USA or hone your Frogwatching skills at an upcoming training session. Contact training facilitators for more information.

Howard County Dept. of Parks & Recreation (MD)  3/4/09
SMuller@howardcountymd.gov

High Rock Park (NY)  3/08/09
Elizabeth.Nicholls@parks.nyc.gov

Roger Williams Park Zoo (RI)  3/19/09
mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org

Chester County Park (PA)  4/04/09
jerb@chesco.org

Oglebay’s Good Zoo (WV)  4/18/09
PMiller@oglebay-resort.com

Roger Williams Park Zoo (RI)  4/18/09
mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org

Send us your FrogWatch training dates and we’ll add them to the list!

Updated Training Materials

Interested in hosting a training session but don’t know how to get started? Or just want some more info about participating in FrogWatch USA? FrogWatch USA has a number of materials to help get you started. Contact mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org.

Visit FrogWatch.org

Want to become familiar with the frog calls in your area or brush-up on your frog-listening skills? Interested in learning more about amphibian declines and how to help protect these animals? Check out the FrogWatch USA website at: www.frogwatch.org. This website will be hosted by the National Wildlife Federation throughout the 2009 FrogWatching season.