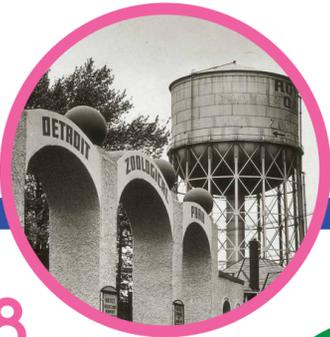


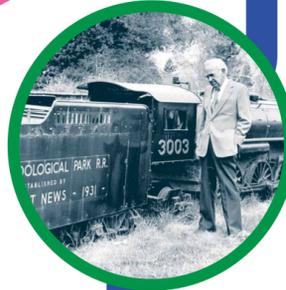
1911

Caring members of the community form the DZS to plan a world-class Zoo in the heart of metro Detroit.



1928

The Detroit Zoo opens to the public on Aug. 1, 1928. The seasonal Zoo included bear dens, lion dens, a birdhouse, an elk yard, raccoon and wolverine habitats, an African veldt and lakes stocked with fish.



1931

The miniature railroad – now known as the Tauber Family Railroad – opens after being donated by the Detroit News.



1995

The Ron Kagan Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, which houses the Matilda R. Wilson Free-Flight Aviary and the Butterfly Garden, opens.



1960

The Holden Museum of Living Reptiles – now known as the Holden Reptile Conservation Center – opens.



1955

The Great Ape House – today reimagined as the Great Apes of Harambee habitat – opens.

2000

Amphibiville, home of the National Amphibian Conservation Center, opens.



2001

The Arctic Ring of Life, one of North America's largest polar bear habitats, opens.

2004

The Ruth Roby Glancy Animal Health Complex opens to provide expert veterinary care to the animals who call the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Center home.



2005

Elephants Winky and Wanda move to California in order to live and roam in an expansive sanctuary.

2006

The DZS assumes daily operations and financial management of the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Center.

2008

Voters in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties approve a property tax millage to help support Detroit Zoo operations.



Today

The DZS continues to thrive as an organization where animals, nature, people and resources are valued.



2016

The Polk Penguin Conservation Center, one of the largest penguin facilities in the world, opens.



2012

The Cotton Family Wetlands and Boardwalk opens.



2021

Longtime CEO Ron Kagan retires. Dr. Hayley Murphy, DVM, takes over the helm as executive director/CEO of the DZS.

2009

The Center for Zoo and Aquarium Animal Welfare and Ethics is established.



2022

The Belle Isle Nature Center reopens following a \$2.5-million renovation.



2020

The DZS wins the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums Environmental Sustainability Award.

# IGNITING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY

For decades, the DZS has been dedicated to advancing animal well-being, conservation, education and environmental sustainability. Building on this strong foundation, we are committed to igniting positive change for animals and nature — at our campuses and around the world.