



**Your Time
Your Place**

CLEVELAND METROPARKS

2025 Zoo AZA Reaccreditation

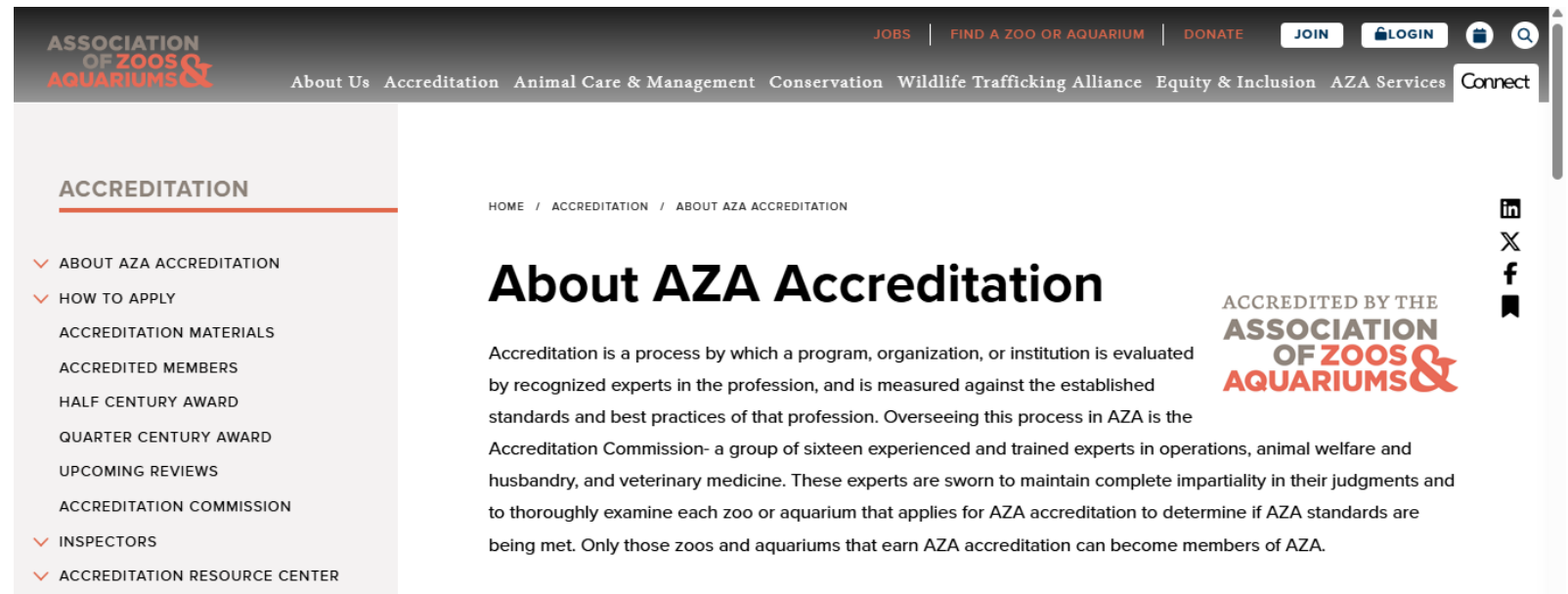


**CLEVELAND
METROPARKS ZOO**

SECURING A FUTURE FOR WILDLIFE

AZA Accreditation Standards

- Continuously accredited since 1982
- Accreditation required for access to SSP breeding populations
- Accreditation required for many wildlife transport and holding laws and regulations
- 5-year cycle



The screenshot shows the AZA Accreditation website. The header includes the AZA logo and navigation links: JOBS, FIND A ZOO OR AQUARIUM, DONATE, JOIN, LOGIN, and a search icon. A secondary navigation bar lists: About Us, Accreditation, Animal Care & Management, Conservation, Wildlife Trafficking Alliance, Equity & Inclusion, AZA Services, and Connect. The left sidebar under the 'ACCREDITATION' heading lists: ABOUT AZA ACCREDITATION, HOW TO APPLY, ACCREDITATION MATERIALS, ACCREDITED MEMBERS, HALF CENTURY AWARD, QUARTER CENTURY AWARD, UPCOMING REVIEWS, ACCREDITATION COMMISSION, INSPECTORS, and ACCREDITATION RESOURCE CENTER. The main content area is titled 'About AZA Accreditation' and includes the text: 'Accreditation is a process by which a program, organization, or institution is evaluated by recognized experts in the profession, and is measured against the established standards and best practices of that profession. Overseeing this process in AZA is the Accreditation Commission- a group of sixteen experienced and trained experts in operations, animal welfare and husbandry, and veterinary medicine. These experts are sworn to maintain complete impartiality in their judgments and to thoroughly examine each zoo or aquarium that applies for AZA accreditation to determine if AZA standards are being met. Only those zoos and aquariums that earn AZA accreditation can become members of AZA.' To the right of this text is the AZA logo with the text 'ACCREDITED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS &'. Social media icons for LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and a bookmark icon are on the far right.

Major and minor concerns

- **No major concerns!**
- Minor concerns
 - Minor repairs
 - A number of exhibits do not meet modern zoological standards, including:
 - Ambassador animal housing
 - Seals and sea lions
 - Great apes
 - Black bears and brown bears



Significant Achievements

- Animal wellness evaluation protocol
 - Philosophy of the leadership team “standard of care”
- Exceptional commitment to scientific achievement
 - 112 research projects, 54 peer reviewed articles
- Engagement in wildlife conservation efforts is outstanding
- Excellence in staff training and development
 - 51 AZA leadership positions
 - Metroparks and the Zoo are role models in preparing the team for safe responses

Significant Achievements

- “We want to commend the zoo's long-term commitment to its African elephant program. The Zoo has made a significant investment in the occupational safety and professional development of its elephant care team”
- “The volunteer program exemplifies best practices, with particularly impressive systems for recruitment, training, and performance evaluation that result in a highly engaged volunteer workforce.”



Significant Achievements

“The inspection committee would like to commend the outstanding workplace culture demonstrated by the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The environment fostered exemplifies the highest standards of collaboration, inclusivity, and respect. Employees and volunteers consistently demonstrate a shared commitment to excellence, innovation, and mutual support, which not only drives productivity but also enhances overall employee well-being and satisfaction.”



ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS

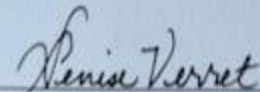
This certifies that



CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO

Has been granted Accreditation
This 14th day of September 2025

Institution Number: IN - 1350500


Chair of the Board, AZA


Chair, Accreditation Commission
Expires 9/30/2030