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The Toro Company Awards The Minnesota Zoo Nearly \$25,000 in Grant and Product Donations

Toro Furthers Commitment to Environment and Community with Recent Gift

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – April 16, 2004 – The Toro Company (NYSE:TTC) today announced its recent gift to the Minnesota Zoo, totaling nearly \$25,000. The gift includes a \$10,000 grant to support environmental education programming and nearly \$15,000 worth of lawn equipment to maintain the Zoo’s 485 acres. The Toro Company contributes a minimum of two percent of its gross domestic pre-tax profits every year to organizations that preserve the outdoor environment and programs which support the community. Last year, the company donated over \$2 million.

“Through cash and product donations, scholarships and employee volunteerism, Toro is helping better the communities where we live and work,” said Stacy Bogart, Director of The Toro Company Giving Program. “Our work with the Minnesota Zoo demonstrates our commitment to both our communities and the environment. The mission of the Zoo is to strengthen the bond between people and the living earth, which directly aligns with The Toro Giving Program’s environmental focus.”

The grant will help fund both the Zoo’s Mentor and Zoomobile programs. The Mentor Program teaches inner-city middle school students about zoo logistics, animal care and employment opportunities in the zoological field. The Zoomobile and its team of trained naturalists travel to schools and community events throughout the state of Minnesota and beyond, providing environmental education to a variety of audiences.

In addition to the financial gift, dozens of Toro employees volunteered to help with the Zoo’s spring clean-up effort earlier this week. As part of Toro’s corporate volunteer program, employees are given 20 hours of paid time off each year to perform volunteer duties for qualifying organizations.

“The financial support Toro is providing for our environmental education program is critical given recent state operating cuts,” said Andrea Bork, Minnesota Zoo Development Director. “We appreciate the strong commitment Toro has made to Zoo through these gifts and with the work of their employees as volunteers for our spring clean up.”

About The Toro Company Giving Program:

The Toro Giving Program enhances the health and well being of all Toro communities through active outreach and involvement. The primary giving focus is to support organizations that preserve the outdoor environment. Contributions are also focused on programs that enhance education, health and welfare, culture, the arts, and civic projects. The Toro Foundation, an independent, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, facilitates much of Toro's giving through matching gifts, volunteer grants and elective grants. Toro also provides scholarships, employee volunteer opportunities, and product and in-kind donations.

About The Toro Company:

The Toro Company (NYSE: TTC), with \$1.5 billion in sales annually, is a leading provider of outdoor maintenance and beautification products for home, recreation, and commercial landscapes around the world. Together with its distributors, Toro provides innovative products, agronomic expertise and exemplary service that helps consumers and professionals maintain their landscapes. Visit the company website at www.thetorocompany.com. Distributor information is available at 1-800-803-8676.

About The Minnesota Zoo:

For more information, call the Minnesota Zoo information line at 952.431.9200 or visit www.mnzoo.org. The Zoo is accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (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 a leader in global wildlife conservation, and your link to helping animals in their native habitats. For more information visit www.aza.org.

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