

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
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Overland, Mo 63114

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First the care...then the air




Precautions to help avoid bird concussions

This female yellow shafted northern flicker “fell out of the sky”, according to WBR admission comments. Possibly she flew into a window. At this point she is resting. Later she will be moved to a larger area, where she has more room until she is promoted to the outdoor aviary prior to release.

If you see a bird dazed after hitting a window, put the bird in a box and after an hour you should be able to tell whether further care is required. If there is any sign of blood, eyes are shut or obvious signs of injury the bird will need care - bring him to WBR. Otherwise, he can be released. You can prevent birds from flying into the window with a window decal on the window or hanging a curtain or blind so there is not a clear view through the house and out another window – a situation where the bird sees a clear flight path that isn’t really there.



Find us on
Facebook

If you are on **Facebook** keeping up with your friends or checking out the latest family photographs, stop by **Wild Bird Rehabilitation**. You’ll find pictures of patients as well as other great bird pictures and information, announcements regarding upcoming events and educational opportunities. Sign up for our Twitter  feed to receive updates

WBR gets a makeover

Many thanks to the volunteers, staff and local businesses who helped improve our facility over the winter months. Fresh paint, new flooring in the entry and hallway, new counter tops and reorganization of the workspaces are the highlights. Buchholtz Interiors in St. Charles donated the flooring; Lowes in Bridgeton provided two counter tops. Dana B. helped make this happen. Home Depot in Overland donated utility sinks

and faucets for the recovery and laundry areas. Brian F. installed the sink in the lower kitchen and picked up items from Home Depot. Emily F. successfully requested counter tops from Lowes. Patrick S. painted and prepared the downstairs for new flooring. Gary B. installed the new counter in the lower kitchen, designed and built a new drop box and installed security lighting. Kyle G. removed wallpaper, hauled away scrap and debris, reconfigured the utility room and hung cabinets with the help of his father Randy. Thanks to all!



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Spring 2014

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

9624 Midland Blvd

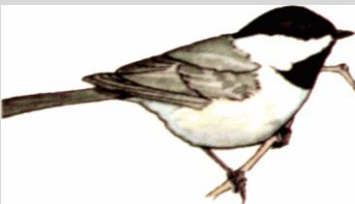
Overland, Mo 63114

314-426-6400

*Please call before you
bring in a bird*

Hours of Operation
Beginning Apr 15
9am-8pm Daily

www.wildbirdrehab.org



Our Mission is to provide
the best possible care
for
injured, ill or orphaned
wild birds and release
them back to their
natural habitat

Volunteers are the key to success at WBR

Searching for dedicated, enthusiastic, reliable individuals to care for wild songbirds. Songbirds are synonymous with spring and integral to the sounds of summer and the sounds of Wild Bird Rehabilitation where the volunteers and staff are tuned into the importance of their mission. They are the key to survival for the hundreds of birds treated during the summer months.

Join the Volunteer Team

As birds return to our area, the volunteers return to WBR and new volunteers begin learning about bird care. The Volunteer Orientation program explains the “what” and “why” of WBR to new volunteers. In the beginning, they start out with various cleanup and setup tasks that don’t include hands-on with birds. They are constantly evaluated before graduating to the next level, where a more experienced volunteer or staff member will provide hands-on training to prepare them for the next phase of their development. These sessions occur repeatedly throughout the season to prepare them for additional responsibilities.

A baby bird is fed daily every 15-30 minutes for 10-12 hours. Therefore, it takes a substantial volunteer force to meet the demands of spring and summer. The work day begins early. Volunteers arrive at 7:15 to set up for the morning feeding.

Many ways you can help

There are a variety of jobs at the center that don’t involve direct contact with the birds: cleanup, maintaining patient records, reception and various office functions to name a few. Volunteers usually commit to a minimum of one four hour shift per week, but the Volunteer Manager will work to accommodate an individual’s schedule. Another option is to work from home answering phone calls; this allows those at the Center to devote their efforts to bird care.

Meet Jean, a returning volunteer

Jean Lohead has volunteered at WBR for four years. She brought an injured bird in for treatment on a busy April day and signed up as a volunteer. In the beginning, Jean cleaned cages in the nursery, then progressed to the exam room and now works primarily with baby birds. She credits the ongoing training classes with helping her to continually expand her knowledge of bird care.

Jean says working with the birds makes you feel like you are really accomplishing something - you see improvements from week to week in an injured or ill bird or you see a baby bird as it develops. “It’s special, it makes you feel good.” To join the volunteers at WBR and “feel good” working with the injured, ill or orphaned wild songbirds of St. Louis, contact WBR at 314-426-6400.



Jean sets up a cage for a recovering robin who is ready to “spread his wings” before moving to the outdoor aviary.

Here's what's going on at WBR...



This patient's injuries sound suspiciously like the result of a robin defending his territory.

The first signs of spring are the robins and cardinals admitted for injuries caused by attacking their reflections in windows or shiny surfaces. As the mating season approaches they are obsessed with defending their territory. The males want to make sure no one is encroaching on their territory but also want to show the females how well they can protect her and their future family.

Then the babies appear on the scene at WBR. Here are a few pointers to help you understand when a baby bird needs our help. First, **it's a myth that the mother will reject the baby bird if you touch it.** The birds have no fear of the human scent, so you can return the nestling to the nest. If you can't find the nest or can't reach the nest, make one using a small container, with holes punched in it and filled with dried grass or pine needles and hang it from a tree. If the bird is feathered, it's called a fledgling and hopping around on the ground is normal activity. But if it's in danger from neighborhood pets, put the bird on a bush or tree limb and watch to insure the parents are nearby.

If there is no sign of the bird's parents or the bird is bleeding or the wings are drooping or it appears injured, call WBR and we will help you determine the best course of action.

WBR Staff & Volunteers

In Memory of...In Honor of

In honor of Lynne Breakstone

Department of Romance
Languages & Literatures at
Washington University

In honor of Mia Goldsmith

Sarel Braisted

In honor of Bernadine Feiden

Karen Garcia

In honor of Carol Kershner

Ettus M. Hiatt

In honor of Elaine Johnson

Rebecca Wallace

In honor of Darla Mead

Eric & Holly Eversgerd

In honor of Leslie Wainwright

Paul & Linda Lee
Kay Kaiser & John Carr

In honor of Sparrow 3718

Miller Family

In memory of Maria Blest

Cindy Blest

In memory of Virginia Dinan

Dwight Dinan



Bluebird - Missouri State Bird

In memory of David Faintich

Carol Faintich

In memory of Georgia Ferguson

Jennifer Cira

In memory of Rosemary Froechtenigt

Christine Harper

In memory of Benjamin Gollihur

Helen Gollihur

In memory of Leo Politte

Ruth Vlasak

In memory of Punky

Lisa Mueller

In memory of all horses destined for slaughter

Nancy Kutta

In memory of "Jitterbug"

Judy Thompson

Board of Directors: Diane Bricmont, Sallie Lynch, Donna Short, Mary Beth Spangler, Leslie Wainwright, Denise White **Executive Director:** Tracy Durrell

Wild Bird Rehabilitation Wish List

If you would like to help us by donating supplies – here is a list of things we need, especially during the spring and summer months. WBR is totally funded by donations – therefore your help is critical to our daily operations.

Cleaning Supplies

- Dawn™ brand dish detergent
- Simple Green™ detergent
- Chlorine bleach
- Toilet Paper, unscented
- Paper Towels
- Trash bags (13 gallon)
- Laundry Detergent, unscented

Support Services

- Copy paper
- Postage stamps
- Printing services (or help with cost)

Feeding the Birds

- Berries (frozen) No strawberries
- Bird seed (safflower, finch mix, black-oiled sunflower, cracked corn, white millet, fruit & nut blend)
- Canned foods (beets - sliced not pickled, black-eyed peas, carrots, corn, crushed pineapple, mandarin oranges) No seasoning or added sugar or fructose.
- Science Diet Cat chow (plain)
- Exact™ hand rearing formula (from pet stores i.e. PetSmart™, Petco™)
- Fresh fruit (red apples only, red grapes, berries, dark raisins)

Calendar of Events

Volunteer Orientation & Training – call 314-426-6400 for information regarding dates and times.

March 20, the first day of spring, Sachs Library at 7 pm, 16400 Burkhardt Pl. Chesterfield, MO.

Explanation of how WBR began, how our medical team treats, rehabilitates, and finally releases injured or orphaned birds and what to do when you find an injured bird or an egg. Register at slcl.org.

March 31 & April 1 – Story Hour at Town & Country Whole Foods Market on Clayton Rd, 1160 Town & Country Crossing Dr., 10 am. Discussing backyard birds and reading *There Is a Bird on Your Head*. Open to all ages, especially for children and parents.

April 26 - Estate Sale at 113 Morningside, Kirkwood. To sign up to be notified of other scheduled sales send your email address to wbrsongbird@gmail.com or see announcements on our Facebook page.

May 3 – The Bug Store, 4474 Shaw Blvd, MO. 10-6 pm. Events include informative talks on what to do if you find a bird, raffle of a handcrafted birdhouse and store discounts. Watch our Facebook page for more information.

Save the Date! November 8 - Annual Silent Auction & Trivia Night.



Denise White discusses baby birds with a captivated audience at Whole Foods

Other ways you can help If your schedule doesn't allow you to commit to specific times, there are other ways you can help. With the **Schnucks eScrip** program you designate a nonprofit organization to receive a percentage of your purchase. Sign up for this program, designate **Wild Bird Rehabilitation** and use your *eScrip* card at Schnucks when you shop. Many area employers have a **matching gift** program where your donation to WBR is matched by your employer, thus doubling your gift. Schedule an event such as **garage sale** or exhibit at a **craft fair** and donate the proceeds to WBR. We offer assistance and help publicizing the event. WBR has been the beneficiary of **"Birthday Parties"** where donations are given in lieu of gifts.