

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, MO 63114

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WBR Supporters to the Rescue

Because of the WBR Supporters who responded to our **GOFUNDME** request for help the E.R. now contains a new digital neonatal incubator.

When newborn native songbirds-are admitted to Wild Bird Rehabilitation they are immediately put in a “nest” which is covered with a cloth (as shown here) and placed in the incubator. These baby birds are naked, featherless and helpless and this step is critical to their survival. In their native environment they cuddle

together but when that balance is disrupted by predators or accidents they are relying on WBR to avoid hypothermia. The neonatal incubator is the best way to warm the hatchlings and is being put to use extensively this spring. Thank you for your help!

November 12, 2016 - Save the Date!

Silent Auction & Trivia Night Benefit

Join us for this fun evening

At the Kirkwood Community Center

Donating a product, service or gift certificate for our silent auction is a fun way to help birds! Please visit www.wildbirdrehab.org/in-the-news/ for a list of auction

donation ideas and corporate sponsorship packages.

Contact us to discuss: Email: wbrtrivia@gmail.com Phone: (314) 426-6400



Hairy Woodpecker nestlings



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Summer 2016

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114

(314) 426-6400

*Please call before you bring
in a bird*

Hours of Operation

Daily
9am-7pm

www.wildbirdrehab.org



Our mission is to provide care for injured, ill and orphaned native wild songbirds and to release them back into their natural habitat. We also provide public education regarding the humane treatment of wild songbirds and the conservation of their habitat.

The Tale of the Nuthatch Orphans

Birdsong fills the air during the spring and summer months as we care for hundreds of patients, primarily baby birds. Spring storms always bring a variety of hatchlings and nestlings to our



White-breasted Nuthatch Nestlings

door when rescuers find nests blown from trees or abandoned.

Hatchlings found on the ground

These White-breasted Nuthatch hatchlings were admitted during April when they were found on the ground after a spring storm. Mom could not be located and the family dog was lurking nearby. At the time of admittance the Nuthatches were put in a small "nest" constructed of paper towels with a pocket of tissue, then covered with a cloth and placed in the neonatal incubator for warmth. At this time of the year the incubator is packed with birds representing a variety of species.

The Nuthatches were fed crickets and mealworms every 20 minutes from 7 am to 7 pm. They remained in the incubator until they started feathering and then they were kept warm with a heating pad.

Nuthatch fledglings move to Nursery

In early May the Nuthatches, now considered fledglings, were moved to a

flight cage in the Nursery where they were fed crickets, mealworms and wax worms every 45-60 minutes. At this point they were still hand fed but had food dishes in the cage to encourage them to feed on their own.

Obviously, it is necessary for them to be self-feeding in order to progress toward eventual release. They need to be prepared for life in the wild where they will be competing for food and dependent on their own resources to locate every meal.

It's critical to keep the birds challenged and progressing developmentally. Their cage in the Nursery contained bark and stumps, similar to their natural environment.



White-breasted Nuthatch fledglings in the Nursery

Next step is the Aviary and then release

Once the Nuthatches were self-feeding they were moved to the Aviary, which consists of large outdoor cages. There the biggest challenge was to insure they mastered flight and were eating the prescribed amount. They passed all tests and were released after five weeks at WBR!

This bird species remains in our area year round and thanks to the rescuer and our Volunteer Team the St. Louis area now has an increased White-breasted Nuthatch population!

In Honor of...In Memory of

In honor of the special birthday of Shelley Edwards

Bruce Edwards

In honor of Shira Tannenbaum

William Tannenbaum

In honor of my friend Karinna who volunteers at WBR

Debbie Curcuru

In honor of Miss Peggy Sue

Laurence Rosen

In honor of Hubertine & all the Starlings

Natalie Gerke

In memory of Eleanore Anderson

Brooks Anderson

In memory of Helen D. Hemphill

Carol Hemphill

In memory of Loyola & Joseph Ewen

Linda Isbell

In memory of Mrs. Robert E. Halamicek

Richard Radford

In memory of Roger Olsen

Gian & Barb Alleruzzo

Joseph Klos

Donna & Mike Walther

Lisa Sinden-Gottfried

Robert & Georgene Herz

Janet Jones

Deanna & Mark Hanna

David & Cathy Beisel

Jim & Susie Pisoni

Charles & Virginia Herbel

Mike & Barb Stork

Tom McGrath

The Garagnani Family

David Sneddon

Larry & Joyce Krueger

Julie Dubman

In memory of Joan E. Gessler

S L Kotar

In memory of Dennis Brannaker

Roberta Brannaker-

Tousignant

In memory of Birdie Kirchofer

Rebekah Kirchofer

In memory of Nancy M. Thomas

John W. Thomas

In memory of Lucille Evans

Reva Gallup

In memory of Ginny Nester

Mary Kriegshauser



*Previous WBR Patient:
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*

In memory of Dorothy & John Hill

Jonathan & Julie Cage

In memory of John 'Eggysan' Egbert

Grave Danger & Arch

Rival Roller Derby

In memory of Carol Wendt

Susan Popovich

In memory of Abbie Gail

Phoebe Sousa

In memory of Bella Levine

Teresa Levine

In memory of "my little one" Cassita Gata

Wayne Easton

In memory of Daisy, our beloved Beagle

Larry & Pat

Wesemann

In memory of Little Parakeet

Peg Tyler

In memory of Trudy, my cocker spaniel

beagle mix

Janet Noble

In memory of Zacchaeus, a wee beautiful bird with an attitude

Bernice Hilgert

In memory of Tank, the turtle

Lisa Mueller

In memory of Lola, the African grey

Kasia Waniolka

In memory of Jitterbug

Judith Thompson

How you can help area birds...use your eScrip Card and designate Wild Bird Rehabilitation when you shop at Schnucks! Join the Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) program, select Wild Bird Rehabilitation as your charity and WBR receives a portion of your Amazon purchases.

Calendar of Events

Missouri Botanical Garden Native Plant School at Shaw Nature Reserve, various dates – learn about adding native plants to your landscape and attracting birds and butterflies.

Saturday, June 18, Native Plant Garden Tour, includes 10 gardens in the U City, Clayton, Creve Coeur area. See stlouisaudubon.org/conservation/BCH/ for more information.

Saturday, November 12 Trivia Night & Silent Auction, Kirkwood Community Center. Save the date for a fun evening at this annual event which is WBR's major fundraiser of the year.

See www.wildbirdrehab.org/events for up-to-date information!

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

As you know spring and summer are the busiest time of the year and our new incubator is getting a workout. Thank you for your support in purchasing this critical piece of equipment!

Dedicated E.R. Space for Adult Birds

During the winter months we made some changes to our facility to maximize our space. We've reduced the size of our reception area to create E.R. space for adult birds so that they are not in the middle of the noise and activity that accompanies the baby birds, many of which are fed every 15-20 minutes. See the information below regarding glue traps. We have treated quite a few adult birds caught in these traps.

We love caring for the baby birds – some of them are so tiny when they are admitted that it's difficult to determine the species! But keep in mind that our end goal is to return the bird to its native habitat. Therefore,

the preference is always to avoid removing the bird from its mother's care, if possible.



Northern Cardinal hatchlings

Call before you bring in a bird!

First, please call WBR before you bring in a bird so that may guide you to take action that results in the most positive outcome possible for the bird. Refer to the guide on our website <http://wildbirdrehab.org/help-ifoundabird/> or call immediately for guidance.

If a bird appears injured in any way contact WBR immediately. We are available from 9 am to 7 pm and will help you determine a plan of action for a bird that may need help.

WBR Staff & Volunteers



Thank you for helping the birds on May 3...your generosity is appreciated!

The Dangers of Glue Traps

This spring WBR has treated a number of birds that were caught in glue traps. Glue traps are trays coated with an extremely sticky adhesive. Any animal that touches one is immediately caught and immobilized—bodily stuck to the trap. Glue traps are a cheap way to eliminate rodents, insects, and sometimes snakes. Unfortunately if they are in an open area they may ensnare birds searching for food.

Here are guidelines if you encounter a bird caught in a glue trap:



- Do not attempt to remove the bird from the trap. It's very critical that this be done by a licensed rehabilitator to avoid additional injury to the bird. We will do this at WBR.

- Put cornmeal (preferred), cornstarch or flour on the rest of the trap so the bird doesn't inflict further damage while trying to free themselves from the trap. Place both the bird and the trap in a small cardboard box so he'll calm down. Call WBR (314-426-6400) and bring to WBR immediately.



WBR will remove the bird from the trap and then bathe the bird in a special bath to remove the glue. They will be under care until the feathers return. Often the bird has inflicted other damage on themselves while trying to escape the trap. **Please do not use glue traps** in areas accessible to wildlife or pets - it is a cruel means of pest eradication, and horrible to see a bird caught in one.

Like us on Facebook and visit our website www.wildbirdrehab.org for information about what to do if you find a bird, WBR events, bird rescue stories and more.