

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114



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November 11, 2017 - Save the Date! **Silent Auction & Trivia Night Benefit**

Join us for a fun evening

At the Kirkwood Community Center

Donating a product, service or gift certificate for our silent auction is a great 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



Thank you for helping the birds on GIVE STL Day May 11 and for supporting our T-Shirt fundraiser. Your generosity is always appreciated!

give
STL
Day.org

POWERED BY THE
ST. LOUIS
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

See our Facebook page for photos of our patients, many of whom are baby birds who will be released in your area! You'll find information about what to do if you find an injured or orphaned bird on our website: www.wildbirdrehab.org. Select **Connect** and **Wildlife Resources** to find links to other wildlife resources and great bird videos and photos.



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Summer 2017

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.

Our Mission: Rescue, Rehabilitate and Release

Those three words describe the primary mission of WBR and the service we perform. Birds are a critical part of our ecosystem and unfortunately many species are rapidly declining. The contributions of birds range from the aesthetic to the practical which makes our mission especially critical.

Rescue

Rescuers throughout Missouri and western Illinois bring native wild songbirds to our facility. Call before bringing in a bird to insure that the bird requires help and to discuss proper handling during transportation. See www.wildbirdrehab.org/help-ifoundabird/ for information regarding bird rescue. It's important to avoid removing nestlings when there is a parent in the vicinity.

We care for many adult birds who are injured when they fly into a window, get caught in a glue trap, tangle with family pets and a variety of other injuries.

Rehabilitate

At the time of admittance we conduct an examination and determine a treatment plan. Hatchlings and nestlings

start in the incubator since they are generally chilled when they are admitted. They are fed every 15-20 minutes, 12



Northern Cardinal rescued after he was attacked by a cat.

hours per day. When they are feathered and mobile they are moved to the Nursery and a larger area where they can progress to flight

and self-feeding. The bird's size and species determine many factors: the circumference and placement of the perch, cage size and diet. Although many baby birds are admitted with siblings, some are sole survivors and they are often placed with a nest mate of the same age – not



American Robin hatchlings require feeding every 15-20 minutes.

necessarily the same species but with similar temperament. This encourages competitiveness and provides a behavioral model. The placement of the cage is also a factor. Adult birds recover in a separate, more peaceful area.

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Our Mission: Rescue, Rehabilitate and Release (cont'd)

Release

The last step prior to release is the Aviary which provides more space for flight and the ability to acclimate to the outdoors. Prior to release the bird must be able to fly and achieve the height necessary for life in their native environment. Food consumption is monitored to insure the proper amount for survival is consumed. When these conditions are met the bird is ready for release. Adult birds are released in the location where they were rescued. A bird admitted to WBR as a baby is a juvenile at the time of release which is usually in a park or open area.

WBR will rehabilitate approximately 2000 birds during 2017 thanks to Volunteers who make this possible. WBR is a 501(c)3 and receives no state or federal funding. Operations are funded thanks to donors like you!



Barn Swallow in the Aviary who was released at Wildlife Rescue to join an active colony there.

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

As usual things are lively at WBR at this time of the year. In addition to the normal spring rush, this year had the added complications of storms and floods.

Maintenance in the Aviary Area

Early this spring we made improvements to our Aviary area. A few of our dedicated volunteers trimmed trees to eliminate cover for neighborhood cats and hawks that were stalking our patients and terrorizing them!

Nests in Wreaths & Plants

This year we have seen an increase in House Finch hatchlings admitted after their nest was discovered in a wreath or plant. Rescuers often assume that the nest has been abandoned and are concerned about the welfare of the baby birds – but in many cases this is not the case. To determine if the parent is in the vicinity observe the nest **continuously** for one hour. Try to avoid traffic in the nest area. This will last for about one month. If you are in the nest area too often the parents will eventually abandon the nest. If you

can't avoid the area and don't want birds nesting on your porch or deck, hang wreaths and place plants outdoors after nesting season.

Campers & Boats as a nest site

Check campers, boats and areas surrounding second homes that were abandoned in early spring when birds were choosing their nest site. You may have surprise guests! If the nest is still active and you are leaving for vacation or you are desperate for a boat ride you may be able to move the nest to a safe area nearby. Observe continuously and call WBR if the parents are not visiting the nest. Birds do not possess a strong sense of smell and will still visit the nest even though you touched it.



A family of House Finches ready for the move to the Nursery.

Give the Bird a chance!

The goal is to provide the best possible outcome for the bird. In the case of baby birds, the best alternative is for the baby to remain with the mother. See www.wildbirdrehab.org/help-ifoundabird for additional information and call WBR before you bring in a bird so we can help you determine the best course of action.

WBR Staff & Volunteers

Calendar of Events

2017 Native Plant Garden Tour, Saturday September 16 9am-4pm. St Louis Audubon and Wild Ones are collaborating to present this tour of residential gardens in west county. See www.stlouisaudubon.org/NPT2017 for more information.

Trivia Night & Silent Auction, Saturday, November 11. 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!

Birding Resources:

Great Missouri Birding Trail: www.greatmissouribirdingtrail.com. This is a great web site to find birding areas throughout Missouri and includes birds of Missouri and birding resources.

Bring Conservation Home: www.stlouisaudubon.org/conservation/BCH. Join the native plant movement and attract birds, butterflies and bees to your landscape! Our native plant garden at WBR attracts Monarch butterflies and countless neighborhood birds.

In Honor of...In Memory of

In honor of Carol & Jonathon Epstein
Marlys Schuh

In honor of WBR Staff
Marvin & Sandra Ginsberg

In honor of Mary, my loving African Grey
Stephanie Corley

In honor of Pia
Lorene Ryan

In honor of Peggy Sue Rosen
Laurence Rosen

In memory of Tim & Jane King
Kathy Saitz

In memory of Don Stuesse
Mark Stuesse

In memory of Doris Fortner
Walter Fortner

In memory of Mike Ivester
Denise McCormick

In memory of Marjorie Thorn
Monta Nelson



Eastern Bluebird patient - Missouri State Bird

In memory of Nancy M. Thomas
John Thomas

In memory of Arlene Martin
R. Blankmann

In memory of "Grandpa" Bill Yancey
Sarah Brewer
In memory of Barbara Framer
Linda Sosna

In memory of Alice
Thomas Kavanaugh

In memory of Max Timeh Gray
Mitch Sanders

In memory of Lady Cardinal
Elizabeth Gordon

In memory of Alfie, the cat
Diana Hart

In memory of Our Sweet Angel, Misty
Patricia Viamontes

In memory of Hubertine, our first avian rescue
Natalie Gerke

Memorial Bricks are available for a donation of \$250 and provide an opportunity to honor or memorialize a family member, occasion, friend or pet.