

Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc.



"caring for tomorrow's wildlife"
www.wild-life-rehab.com

1864 Little Brennan Road - High Ridge, MO 63049
P.O. Box 169 - Fenton, MO 63026
(636) 677-3670
www.wild-life-rehab.com

Winter 2009
Edition No. 9-01

Joys of the Season

January - December 2008 ... Let's take a look at that dash. January saw us in our newly purchased building ... 1864 Little Brennan Road in High Ridge. It is much smaller than our previous quarters, but it is ours. The abandoned Sonic that had literally been left as it stood the day it closed without warning had been

broken into; all copper wiring had been stripped, disconnecting syrup tubing in the ceiling, leaving a coating of sticky goo on floors that were already cluttered with broken appliances, discarded menu signs and petrified french fries. But this building has now become an efficient, successful facility, accomplishing minor and major miracles for injured and orphaned Missouri wildlife. Who would have believed that such a small area could host nearly a 1,000 animals in 2008? But thanks to a committed team of 70-plus volunteers and the veterinarians who work closely with us, we did just that! Go WRC!

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic has evolved almost constantly since the first day, changing and adapting as the animals flowed in and out according to the season — squirrels, flying squirrels, raccoons, rabbits, skunks, foxes, groundhogs and opossums. Our latest "adaptation" is our new addition: a transition area that will house larger cages of animals that have graduated out of nursery care. These are juveniles that are being prepared for release. They will be exposed to natural foods and temperatures and have as little human interaction as possible.

December sees us completing this expansion, which has been carefully designed not only to double our working area but to be easily incorporated into our long-term building plans — thanks to Bill Sherwood of Freedom Construction and architect, Killian Smith.

Future plans focus on raising much-needed money to support an expanded education program.

Thank you to all our donors, members, shift supervisors and volunteer crews. Each of you plays an important role in making it possible for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc. to continue "Caring for Tomorrow's Wildlife."

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Before



After



Before



After

No Paid Positions Here

Volunteers at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic receive no money for their efforts. Instead, we are paid tenfold with each successful animal release. There is no doubt that the orphaned and injured wildlife we rehabilitate know we are here to help, and they thank us every day! We asked some of our volunteers what they enjoy most about their time at the clinic. Here's what they had to say:

"One of the reasons I love to volunteer is knowing that we are giving individual animals a chance at life who would have otherwise suffered unnecessarily. The ability to truly help wildlife live and, when needed, die in dignity is a tremendously inspiring experience. I have always believed that through love, compassion and understanding, the world can be changed, and I firmly believe that we are able to make a difference for each and every animal that passes through our doors." Emily Coffey

"I love getting to know other people who share my love for animals and nature. I also love spending time with the animals because there is never a dull moment. The last time I worked, a raccoon came out of its box with a set of keys in its mouth. I thought maybe it was an old key ring someone gave it to play with, so I told the other volunteers to look! Steve said, 'Are those MY keys?' It turns out the raccoon had picked Steve's pocket without him knowing." Jill McEuen

"I wanted to work with animals I normally would never come in contact with up close and personal. I wanted the chance to help rescue these magnificent creatures and give them every chance to survive in a world that they are literally being pushed out of." Donna Phillips

"Volunteering at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic is a great reward for me. To be able to give back to nature, to take care of those that are injured or orphaned, is the least I can do to help the critters of this planet that we, mankind, are slowly destroying. The dedication and hard work, the long hours, the wounds (from cages as well as animals), the sadness from losing an animal, are all worth it in the end to see a baby I helped raise or an injured or sick animal I helped nurse back to health return to its home in the wild." Jyll Bellis



Full House at the WRC

It's hard to imagine we've housed 943 animals in a building that was once a Sonic restaurant, but that's exactly what we've done! The numbers below say it all! (totals as of day newsletter went to print)

Skunk - 17
Eastern Cottontail - 401
Groundhog - 3
Gray Squirrel - 327
Fox Squirrel - 5
Flying Squirrel - 3
Chipmunk - 3
Red Fox - 3
Raccoon - 36
Opossum - 139
Coyote - 2
Mouse - 4



WRC to Host Program

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic will host an IWRC (International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council) workshop on February 21 and 22 at the Holiday Inn South County. The workshop will enable rehabilitators throughout the United States to attend classes to learn basic care and treatment protocol. Anyone interested can attend. For more information, visit www.iwrc-online.org.

We hope to see you there!

Memorialize a Loved One

With our "Memorial Walk" program, you can memorialize a loved one and help your furry friends, too! A \$100 donation will buy a 4" x 8" brick, while a \$150 donation will purchase an 8" x 8" brick. Each brick will be engraved to your specifications and will be a lasting way to remember your friend. Engraved bricks will be placed in a garden walkway and throughout the facility as construction continues! All profits will help rehabilitate injured and orphaned animals! Download an order form from our website.

Have an e-mail address?

We can e-mail our newsletters to you, which would help WRC reduce expenses and conserve our natural resources. Please send us your e-mail address to: wildliferehabclinic@hotmail.com

Please be sure to include your name and address as it was printed on your newsletter. Make any other corrections as needed. Newsletters are also added to our website at the time of publication.

Friends of the Clinic

The following list includes donations received from January 2008 through November 2008. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please call (636) 225-1033 with any corrections.

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Adele Dilschneider
Carol House Furniture
Charles Cromwell
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E-Mail: wildliferehabclinic@hotmail.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 100% volunteer organization licensed by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

We receive 100% of our funding from private donations. We are not funded by any government agencies. Because we are an all-volunteer organization, all donations are used to provide food, shelter and medical care for our animal patients.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21-22	IWRC Basic Rehabilitation Class
March 7	Trivia Night
May 3	Spring Open House
October 4	Fall Open House
November 14	Trivia Night

The following dates are to be announced:

August	Golf Tournament
September	Blessing of the Animals

Check our website for more details:

www.wild-life-rehab.com

What it Costs:

	Average cost per month	Average length of stay in months
Raccoon	\$70.00	4
Opossum	\$60.00	4
Squirrel	\$50.00	3
Rabbit	\$30.00	1
Groundhog	\$70.00	4
Fox	\$60.00	5
Beaver	\$100.00	12
Mink	\$50.00	2

Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

___ Guardian	\$20
___ Pathfinder	\$25
___ Tracker	\$50
___ Caregiver	\$100
___ Companion	\$500
___ Protector	\$1000

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Brick purchases are 100% tax deductible