

The Ridgeline

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE RIDGE WILDLIFE CENTER

ISSUE 57 | SPRING 2023

**Keep
Wildlife Wild**

*Learn more about
this patient on page 8.*

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Newsletter designed by Dara Bailey Design.

Get to Know Annie, our Executive Director



Q: What skills did you develop early in your career?

A: My nonprofit career began immediately after graduating from college so over the past 15 years I've had to do a bit of everything, starting with the monotonous tasks that are typically assigned to a junior hire. I believe understanding the time, skills, and tools it takes to perform different job functions is essential for anyone who wants to oversee an organization. The expectations I have for my team are realistic and obtainable because they are based on personal experience.

Q: When did your interest in wildlife begin?

A: I'm not sure exactly *when* it began, but I do remember the first wild animal I saved. When I was maybe nine or ten, we were visiting my grandparents who were having a "problem" with a groundhog that was helping itself to their vegetable garden. My dad went to "take care of the problem" and I remember thinking this was a *grave injustice* and took it upon myself to save the innocent creature. I climbed a ladder to the top of a garage where my father could see me, and threatened to jump if he hurt that groundhog. **I do not recommend this style of activism**, although it was effective. My dad let the groundhog live and hasn't hurt one since!

Q: What has been a highlight of your career?

A: Back in 2014, when I was working for American Bird Conservancy, I was sent to the *Biggest Week in American Birding* to take a group of supporters on a morning birding trip with the organizers of the event. I was TERRIFIED! I had only been birding twice before and all of the sudden I'm looking for warblers with Kenn and Kim Kaufman and Mike Parr, some of the most well-known people in the field. But they were all so kind and helpful and excited to share their knowledge that I gained a lifetime's worth of experience in one morning—plus a long list of life birds!



Annie (second from left) at the Biggest Week in American Birding at Black Swamp Bird Observatory in Oak Harbor, Ohio with the Kaufmans and American Bird Conservancy team members.

Q: What is your favorite part of working here?

A: This is the first place I've worked where the physical consequences of human-made threats to our wildlife come through the door. I've advocated, fundraised, and educated people on the dangers of things like outdoor cats, lead, window strikes, etc. pose on our native species, but it's so much more impactful to see it in person and share those stories. However, my favorite part of working here is the staff and volunteers. I am surrounded by people who share my passions and let me "nerd out" about animals and plants!

Q: Do you have a favorite native wildlife species?

A: I get this question a lot and my honest answer is: No. My favorite thing is to explore different places during different times of the year and sharing my love of the outdoors with my kids. One day my favorite species is river otters because I saw a pair on the banks of the Shenandoah, and the next day it is the eastern meadowlark I heard announcing the start of spring. Right now, I am really enjoying sitting outside with my family at dusk and waiting for the bats to start flying overhead!



Annie with her family at the Currituck Banks Reserve in Corolla, North Carolina. Photo by Maile Bradfield

We've Been Busy!

Our facility has been fortunate to add three new positions, bumping our staff up to the largest it's ever been at 11 members—and we are still growing!



CJ White, Education Director

CJ got his start at a small nature center in western Maryland, then moved to work at the World Bird Sanctuary in Missouri where he climbed the ranks from a Naturalist to the Nature Center Manager. He oversaw 60+ species of birds along with staff, volunteers, and interns. As time went on, he moved to be closer to family in Maryland and is now continuing his passion for wildlife education with BRWC!



Trish Carter, Development Director

Trish has 12 years of experience in the field including a four-year term as director of development for the Piedmont Environmental Council. She is passionate about conserving land for future generations and sees the value in educating youth on the importance of respecting and protecting wildlife. Trish is a life-long horsewoman, plays tennis, and enjoys hiking and traveling with her family.



Morgan Powell, Building and Grounds Manager

Morgan has always enjoyed working with his hands and is excited to merge that with his passion for animals and interest in wildlife and the environment. He grew up in Los Angeles, CA and now lives in Winchester, VA with his wife and daughter.

Join our Awesome Team!



We currently have multiple openings for new team members—full time and seasonal opportunities are available. www.blueridgewildlifectr.org/careers

Always Learning



In 2023, three members of our animal care team represented Blue Ridge Wildlife Center at the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference!

Conferences like this are very important to attend as they allow our staff to learn, teach others, and network with other veterinarians and rehabilitators across the country.

We all have so much to learn from one another!

Picture from left to right: Sarah Midolo, Rehabilitation Associate; Jessica Andersen, Rehabilitation Program Manager; Dr. Emily Hsieh, Associate Veterinarian.

Volunteer Appreciation Week:

April 16-22, 2023

As part of our celebrations, we took our volunteers birding and brunching! Many volunteers came and enjoyed some morning snacks and some great weather at the **State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Experimental Farm** to see birds (and some not-birds), many of which have just returned from spring migration!

Thank you to all of our volunteers who work so hard to support our organization and our mission—we couldn't do what we do without **you!**



Baby Birds

We admit HUNDREDS of baby birds over the course of the spring and summer! Like other babies, being raised by their own parents is always the best option and rehabilitation should be avoided unless absolutely necessary. So, when does a baby bird need help?

Baby birds who fall from nests but remain uninjured (no obvious fractures, bleeding, respiratory distress, etc.) should be re-nested if they are hatchlings or nestlings. If the babies cannot be easily returned to the original nest, a makeshift nest can be made from a plastic berry container or other plastic container with drainage, lined with non-absorbent natural materials like grasses or pine needles. Manmade nests should be secured as high as possible (at least 4-5' if not higher) to the original tree or a nearby tree/post/building. If only one nestling or hatchling has fallen from a nest, and the original nest cannot be accessed, this bird may need a rehabilitator, as parent birds cannot sit on both nests at the same time.



Baby Carolina wrens being raised at the Center due to trauma sustained when they fell from their nest.

Baby birds should be left after re-nesting for a full day to assess whether or not adults are returning. If you see an adult feeding (remember, in most species, both parents will feed), or if the baby remains alert, warm, and reactive after a day or more, this is a success! In cases where a parent is not seen, monitor for a few days to determine if the babies are becoming lethargic or quiet. Most parents will not feed if you are actively watching, so please do



Any bird that has been in a cat or dog's mouth should always come in for assessment, whether you notice obvious wounds or not. This photo shows air trapped beneath the skin from a puncture into an air sac, a common condition seen in cat attacked birds.

not hover nearby. The baby's attitude or a nest camera are far more useful monitoring methods.

If the baby birds begin to decline in the first 24 hours, they likely need help, and you should call the Center or your closest permitted bird rehabilitator.

Be sure you are not re-nesting fledglings! Fledglings of many species (young birds whose feathers are beginning to come in but cannot yet fly) are supposed to be on the ground, hopping around and otherwise looking alert and healthy. This is a risky but important life stage, and you should not interfere unless that fledgling has been injured. Some species of birds do not fledge or spend time on the ground, such as swallows and swifts—if you have any concerns about a bird, give us a call so we can help you with your unique situation!

For more information about re-nesting, see our flow chart on the next page!



These photos show examples of baby birds at all different stages—remember, fledglings (far right) may not be able to fly yet, but they should be left alone on the ground. Do not attempt to re-nest at this age!

Found a baby bird?

Baby birds are common in our area in the spring and summer months. Sometimes baby birds need your help, and other times they're okay to be left on their own!



START HERE

Is the baby bird any of the following?

- Bleeding or obviously injured?
- Lethargic or nonresponsive?
- Been in a cat or dog's mouth
- Covered in ants or fly eggs?

If **NO**
to all

Does the bird have some feathers but cannot fly? (Hops/perches on the ground).

OR

Does the bird have downy fluff or pin feathers? Are its eyes closed? Is it unable to stand or perch?

If **YES** to any

This bird may need immediate help!

Call your local wildlife rehabilitator ASAP and contain the bird somewhere warm, dark, and quiet until you receive help!

DO NOT FEED OR GIVE WATER!

This is a fledgling and should be left alone—the parents are often around but out of sight. Fledglings spend a few days to a week on the ground, learning! Keep pets and people out of the area.

This bird is too young to be out of the nest. Place bird back in the original nest, or create a makeshift nest (see instructions below).

Check on baby bird after 2-3 hours. Is the bird still bright and alert? After 24 hours still doing well?

NO

YES

CONGRATS!

You have successfully re-nested a baby bird!

How to make a "Makeshift Nest"

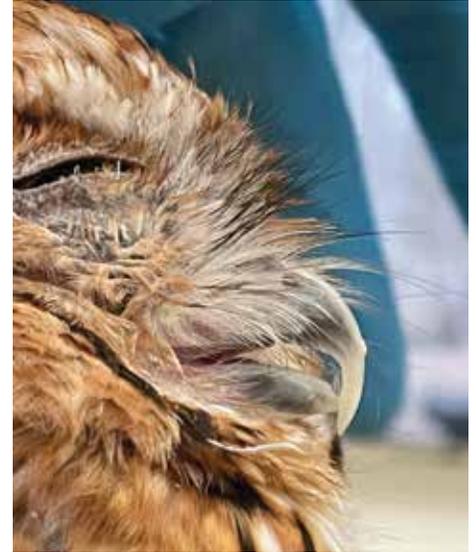
1. Find a plastic container with small holes for drainage in the bottom.
2. Fill with nesting material (leaves or straw) and make a small "cup".
3. Attach container to the nearest tree or structure to where the baby was found using tape, zip ties, nails, etc. Put it up as high as you can reach (at least 5' or more).
4. Leave the area. Check back in 2-3 hours and again in 24 hours.



Patient + Corner

Eastern Screech Owl

An Eastern Screech Owl who had been illegally kept by finders was surrendered to us in December after being confiscated by Conservation Police Officers. While the owl is assumed to have been initially hit by a car as it was found down on the side of the road, the bird did not have any major injuries. However, this bird did have an overgrown beak which was preventing them from opening their mouth and creating difficulty eating. This is likely from the inappropriate diet and housing this owl experienced before being surrendered. The beak has since been coped (trimmed and shaped) to an appropriate length, and they have now since been successfully released after a few weeks in outdoor caging!



Northern Red-bellied Cooter



Our staff wasn't expecting to get in a turtle in early January, but when the weather warmed unusually with temps in the low to mid 60s, finders spotted this Northern Red-bellied Cooter out swimming in a pond unusually. The turtle was swimming in circles consistently, so the finders brought the turtle in to us for evaluation. We found that this turtle was suffering from pneumonia in the right lung field, causing this unbalanced swimming, resulting in circling. Thankfully the astute finder noticed this—this turtle likely would not have survived another bout of cold weather with such an infec-

tion. He is now overwintering with us, eating well, and receiving antibiotic care as he recovers! We are hopeful for a release come May 1st.

Spotted Salamander



Amphibians are one of the less common groups we see in for care, mostly due to their sensitive and secretive nature. This stunning Spotted Salamander came into care after they were found inside an active horse barn, desiccated and lethargic. Thankfully this salamander had no obvious wounds or injuries on exam, although we did treat with topical antibiotics prophylactically in case there was any cat

interaction. It is possible the salamander was dropped in the barn by a cat, though a cat interaction was not witnessed. Breeding season is a more likely explanation, however due to the high bacterial content of cat's mouths and the sensitivity of our amphibians, we erred on the side of caution! Salamanders are known to walk miles during breeding season between wetland locations, and it is possible a cold snap got in the way of this one's trek. Thankfully after just a few days of treatment and rehydration (which added over 30% body weight back to this patient!), this salamander was cleared for release and was returned home by staff to enjoy the remainder of breeding season!



Golden Eagle



A species first for BRWC, we received a call about a downed juvenile Bald Eagle that actually turned out to be an immature Golden Eagle! Staff went to the found location and easily contained the extremely weak bird from a cow field. The intake exam revealed no obvious signs of trauma, yet the eagle was very thin and covered in ectoparasites. In-house bloodwork ruled out our primary suspicion of high lead, but revealed a heavy burden of blood parasites, anemia, and an extremely high white blood cell count indicating systematic infection. After 24 hours of IUC care, including IV fluid support, pain medication, antibiotics, and more, this bird succumbed to its injuries. Further samples were sent out for testing and revealed elevated heavy metals as well as poisons in the body, however, neither were high enough to cause death or visible illness. The diagnosis in this case was sepsis caused by infection, and unfortunately, the bird was too far gone to be saved.

One of the images shows a big difference between Bald and Golden eagles—the feet! Golden eagles, unlike Bald eagles with bald legs, have feathers all the way to their ankle. They are also classified as “Booted eagles” because of their longer and sharper talons, and are more closely related to the buteo hawk family (which includes Red-tailed hawks), than to Bald Eagles, which are classified as “Fishing Eagles”.



Laundry Donations Needed

Want to help our wildlife hospital while you do some Spring Cleaning? We're in need of laundry donations! Laundry helps keep our patients comfortable, clean, and relaxed—whether it's a soft baby blanket for a raccoon to snuggle in, or a few thick towels to keep an injured goose from developing sores, quality laundry helps us provide the best care possible. We also utilize laundry to clean our hospital, helping to keep our patients healthy.

Please consider donating any good-condition towels, hand towels, baby blankets, and sheets! We do not need any clothing, fitted sheets, or items with loose threads or holes. Please call or e-mail before dropping off items so we can make sure we still have a need!



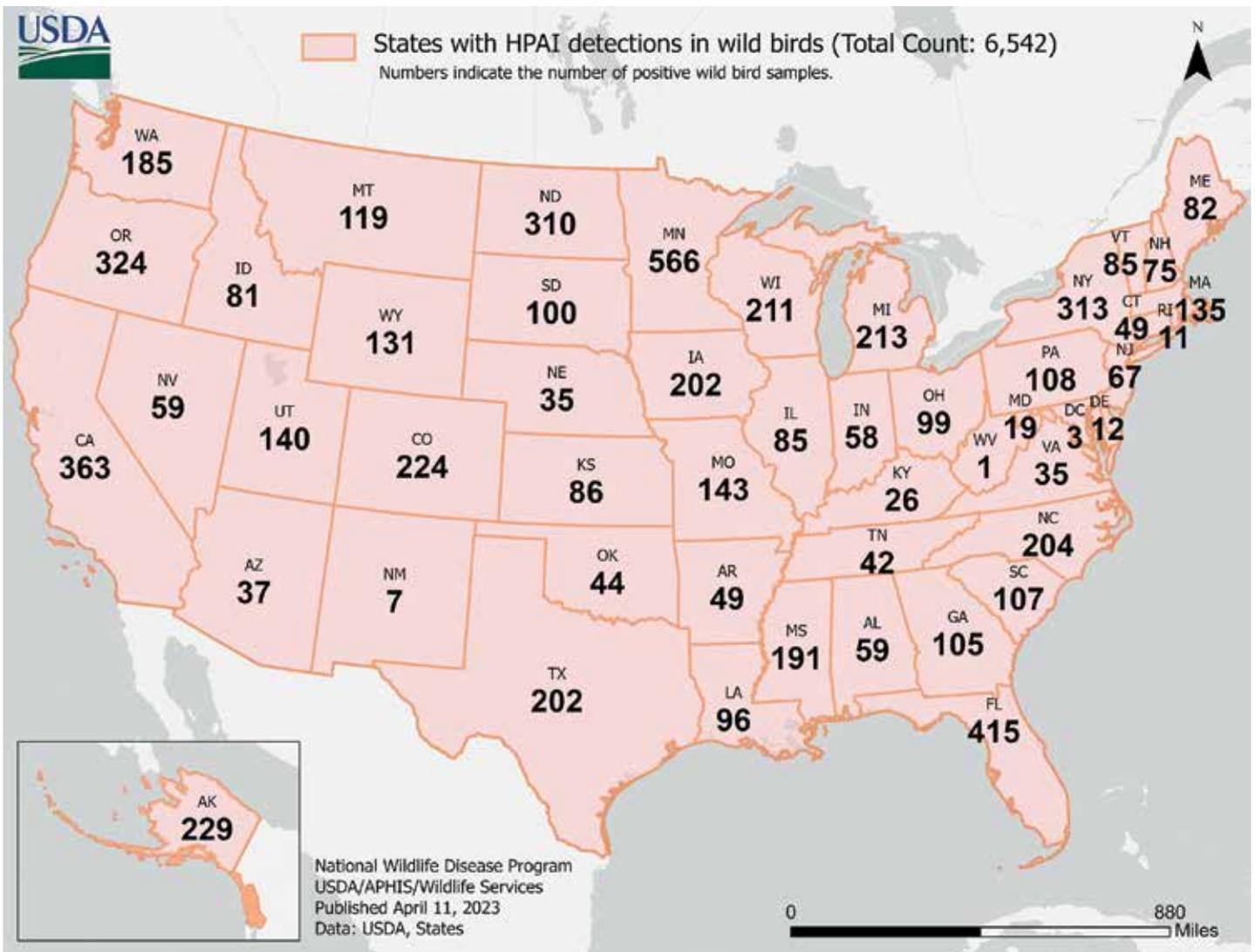
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

We have been dealing with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in our area since early 2022 and unfortunately, there are no signs of slowing. We test all high-risk avian species at the Center and have been fortunate to have just one positive so far (a Black Vulture from Prince William County). Given that there have been positives in many wild mammals across the U.S., we are also testing mammals with suspicious neurological signs. We remind those of you with poultry to stay vigilant as this virus has impacted both commercial and backyard flocks in our state and others. In addition to wild mammals, three cats in the U.S. have recently

tested positive and others have been found dead but not tested. All were suspected to have become ill after eating wild birds. Domestic cats should never be allowed to free roam for a variety of reasons, including exposure to deadly diseases like HPAI. Luckily, this disease is still considered low risk for humans with only 11 cases globally so far. We will continue to keep you updated on this disease and encourage you to learn more at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/2022-hpai>.



HPAI has added a layer of difficulty to raising babies. Yes, even babies can have deadly diseases like this. With gowns, masks, gloves, etc. and constant cleaning, disinfection, and separation of materials used to feed these babies, raising a single owlet can be a full time job!



Wildlife are Not Pets

Many wild animals are brought into care every year because they truly need help. Unfortunately, we continue to see many cases each year of animals that had no need to come into care until humans interfered. This includes cases like abductions, intentional harm, or the illegal keeping of wildlife as pets.

Already in 2023, we've had several cases where animals were kept illegally and inappropriately as "pets". Wildlife are not domestic animals—not only are there legal protections for wildlife, but wildlife is **WILD**. These animals do not and will not behave like cats or dogs, and often act out natural behaviors (like biting, scratching, or hormonal needs) that pose significant risks to human health. Direct, inappropriate contact with mammalian species often leads to health department involvement. If the health department believes there was a potential rabies exposure and requires testing, that will result in the euthanasia of the animals in question due to human health concerns.

One of these cases involved two Striped skunks; both were born in the wild but ended up in the illegal care of well-intentioned members of the public. Though the couple cared about the skunks and meant well, the skunks were morbidly obese, spent their lives in a cage, and had significant wounds and abrasions from dragging their bellies and legs when walking. They were confiscated by Virginia's Depart-



Striped skunk illegally kept as a pet.



Blue Jay with poor feather quality caused by improper diet and housing.

ment of Wildlife Resources (DWR) after a concerned family member notified the agency. Due to the extent of their permanent orthopedic deformities, poor quality of life, and need to be tested by the health department for rabies (skunks are considered a high-risk Rabies Vector Species in Virginia), both skunks were humanely euthanized. Many people don't understand that the **ONLY** way to test for rabies is with brain tissue, post-mortem.

Another case involved a Blue Jay, a corvid species that is federally protected (like all migratory bird species!). This bird was found as a baby after falling from their nest. After a failed re-nesting attempt, this bird was kept by the finder rather than brought in for professional care. After several years in captivity, this bird was surrendered to DWR and brought to us for assessment. The Blue Jay was obese, stressed, and unable to fly due to extremely poor feather quality caused by improper diet and housing. This patient luckily showed no signs of habituation and was appropriately afraid of humans upon admission. We are currently treating this patient and waiting for new, good-quality feathers to grow in and allow for flight. Currently, this bird is at a healthy weight, exhibiting normal behaviors, and even communicating with wild blue jays through the walls of their outdoor enclosure. Their prognosis is guarded at this time, as years of improper confinement and nutrition may have permanent effects on



Comparison of baby bunny of the same age—one inappropriately fed by the finder for days (left), the other fed by its mother until a cat attack required it to come into care.

feather growth and not allow for survival in the wild.

Not all abducted animals are kept as illegal pets—many well-intentioned individuals try to provide care at home in an attempt to rehabilitate wildlife. Regardless of intentions, these situations rarely end well for the wildlife involved. The baby bunny pictured above on the left and their four siblings were brought to us after being removed from their nest and cared for by the finder for nearly a week. Compared to the bunny on the right, who is the same age but was brought to us right away, it's easy to see just how emaciated and stunted these babies were from inappropriate care. Sadly, many who abduct and care for wildlife do not realize how severe the emaciation and malnutrition are since all littermates look similar. In most of these cases, the finder believes the babies are in excellent condition. Unfortunately for this litter, one sibling passed away within 24 hours despite care.

The chances of survival for wildlife held illegally decreases rapidly the longer that animal is in care. In these situations, the animals are always the ones who suffer the consequences. If you or someone you know has illegal wildlife, please reach out to your local state wildlife agency and report the situation. You may be saving the animal's life and protecting yourself or loved ones from legal ramifications.



How to Create a Wildlife Friendly Garden

Making simple changes to your garden can have a big impact on the health of your local environment. To help you get started, here are some tips to transform your garden into a welcoming sanctuary for wildlife!

1 Plant Native Plants



Native plants play an essential role in maintaining the delicate balance of local ecosystems. They are a natural habitat and a reliable source of food for local wildlife. Because they have evolved in the same conditions as their surroundings, they are well-adapted to the local climate and soil conditions, making them easy to maintain. By incorporating native plants into your garden, you are not only providing a beautiful landscape but also creating a sustainable environment that supports a variety of creatures, including birds, butterflies, and bees. To ensure a steady source of nectar and pollen throughout the year, select plants that bloom at different times. This will provide a continuous supply of nourishment for your garden visitors, and look beautiful!

If you are a cat owner, it's crucial to keep your feline indoors or on a leash while outside to prevent it from harming vulnerable wildlife.

2 Be Mindful of your Pets



While cats are beloved pets, they are natural predators and pose a significant threat to native wildlife, particularly birds. If you are a cat owner, it's crucial to keep your feline indoors or on a leash while outside to prevent it from harming vulnerable wildlife. By doing so, you are taking a responsible step towards preserving the natural balance of your local ecosystem and keeping your cat safe from injury and disease!

Additionally, it's essential to keep a watchful eye out for fledgling birds, as they are particularly vulnerable during their first 5-10 days on the ground after leaving the nest. The same goes for bunny nests that may be in your yard. If you notice wild babies in your yard, it's best to keep your dog on a leash to prevent them from unintentionally causing harm.

3 Clean Your Bird Feeder



Observing the birds in your backyard is a delightful way to connect with nature, but cleaning a bird feeder can be a tedious chore that many gardeners would rather avoid. Luckily, the simplest solution is often the best: planting native vegetation. Native plants not only offer a natural food source for birds but also contribute to a thriving ecosystem, without requiring the same level of upkeep as a bird feeder.

Of course, if you do opt for a bird feeder, it's essential to keep it clean and well-maintained to support the health and happiness of your garden visitors. Dirty feeders can quickly spread diseases such as mycoplasmosis, which is prevalent among finches (see above photo). To prevent this, clean your feeder at least once a week using a 10% bleach solution.

By combining the use of bird feeders and native plants, you can create a beautiful and wildlife-friendly garden that supports the health and wellbeing of local birds and other wildlife.



4

Help Migrating Birds on their Journey



Twice a year, millions of birds embark on a long and treacherous journey during migration season, and unfortunately, many of them do not make it to their destination. Light pollution and window collisions are two significant hazards that can prevent birds from reaching their destination safely. To help migrating birds on their journey, it's important to take action by using decals or window films to break up the reflection and prevent collisions with windows. Follow the "2x4 inch rule" to space out the decals and make it

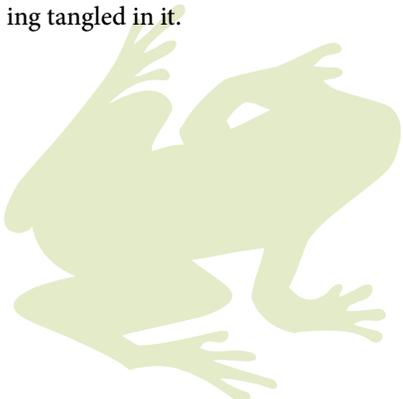
clear to birds that there is an obstacle in their path (placing the decals no more than two inches apart horizontally and four inches apart vertically). Additionally, most birds migrate at night and bright lights can disorient and confuse them, leading them off course or causing exhaustion. Reduce light pollution simply by turning off outdoor lights at night and closing your blinds. By taking these steps, you can help protect our feathered friends during their epic journey!

5

Avoid Loose Garden Netting



Loose garden netting can be a significant hazard to wildlife, especially small mammals and reptiles that can become entangled and injured. If you need to use garden netting, make sure it is pulled tight, securely fastened, and not left piled on the ground. Additionally, remove any unused netting from your garden to prevent animals from becoming tangled in it.

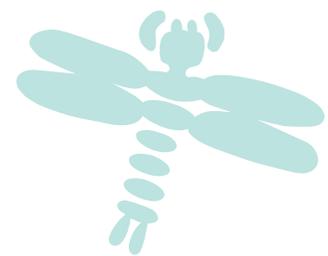


6

Appreciate Typical Garden "Pests"



Often considered as garden pests, animals like moles and groundhogs play a vital role in maintaining soil health. These creatures create tunnels and burrows that help to aerate the soil, allowing water and nutrients to reach the roots of plants. Additionally, their burrows provide shelter for other creatures like snakes, toads, and salamanders, which are beneficial for keeping insect populations in check. Moreover, moles and groundhogs are also an important food resource for predators like hawks and foxes, which help to maintain the balance in the food chain. Instead of trying to eliminate them from your garden, consider coexisting with them and appreciating their contributions to the local ecosystem. You can also take some precautions to minimize the damage they cause, such as planting deep-rooted plants or using fencing to protect specific areas of your garden.



7

Enjoy!



By implementing these tips, you'll not only be creating a visually stunning garden, but also a thriving haven for local wildlife. Whether it's the peaceful sound of birds chirping or the sight of bees buzzing from flower to flower, your wildlife-friendly garden will undoubtedly bring joy and a sense of fulfillment to your life.

New Weekly Programs

Wildlife Look-and-Learn



Education docent, Laura Nelson (R) and Eileen Broderick (L) talk about turtles.

The Blue Ridge Wildlife Center began three new weekly education programs at our facility—**Wonder Weekends**, **Turtle Tuesdays**, and **Wild Wednesdays**. These programs, open to the public per \$5 ticket, allow people to come on different days to learn about various topics through the week, and get to meet some of our Animal

Ambassadors! Programs also included a craft, and guests can stop by anytime between 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM to offer flexibility to different schedules.

Our Wildlife Walk is also open and free to the public to visit between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM for self-guided tours!

Keeper Talk: Raptors

On Fridays, guests will have the opportunity to watch staff train and work with our bird of prey Ambassadors while discussing their stories and natural histories, training techniques, and care at the Center.

Raptor presentations may take place in or outside of the enclosure, depending on each individual animal's comfort and training.

We ask that guests be mindful of the raptors and other animals on the Wildlife Walk and follow all staff prompts for the safety and comfort of our Ambassadors.

This event begins at 11:00 AM and will take place in our Wildlife Walk area. Tickets are \$5 and available online (recommended) or in-person. Children 4 and under are free and do not require a ticket.



Education Director, CJ, with Red-tailed Hawk ambassador, Gryllz.

Are you Interested in Volunteering?

We rely on volunteers in numerous ways to help us care for native wildlife. From animal care, administration, maintenance, to education.

Visit our website to learn more!

blueridgewildlifectr.org

Wildlife Discovery



Camp!

It's that time of year you've all been waiting for—BRWC's **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!** Join us for our **Wildlife Discovery Camp** for ages 7-14.



Children will learn about Virginia's native wildlife, habitats, ecosystems, animal tracks and signs, and more! Summer camp is during the following weeks: **Week 1: June 12-16; Week 2: June 26-30; Week 3: July 10-14; Week 4: July 24-28.** Spots are limited. Learn more and register on our website!



Save the Date!

Oh Baby, It's a Wild World!



• ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA •

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

LONG BRANCH HISTORIC HOUSE AND FARM | MILLWOOD, VIRGINIA

Scan QR code for more information and volunteer opportunities.



MISSION

Our mission is to protect and conserve native wildlife by integrating veterinary medicine, rehabilitation, public education, professional training, and research.

BRWC is a 501(c)3 organization (EIN 54-1996991). The Center relies on private donations exclusively. Contributions are tax-deductible.

BRWC is located in Boyce, Virginia on the Burwell van-Lennep Foundation's property on Island Farm Lane.

FOLLOW US



BRWC HOTLINE: 540.837.9000 | www.blueridgewildlifectr.org | info@blueridgewildlifectr.org

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MOTHER'S DAY: MAY 14

FATHER'S DAY: JUNE 18

PARENT'S DAY: JULY 23



Show some love to the people who raised you!

For a minimum donation of \$30, we will send your mother, father, grandparents, guardian, foster parent, etc. a lovely card with a sticker of your choice and a message from you. You pick the sticker (3x3") and which holiday you would like it sent on...we will do the rest! The proceeds from your gift will go to feeding, housing, and caring for the thousands of wild babies (and the older ones too) we will care for this year!

For more information and to make your donation please visit blueridgewildlifectr.org today!