

Spring 2016



WILD NEWS

P.O. Box 330, Monkton, MD 21111 410-357-5179

www.wildliferescueinc.org

OUR MISSION

Established in 1994, Wildlife Rescue, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization dedicated to alleviating the suffering of sick, injured and orphaned animals. We provide assistance to the public with wildlife emergencies through the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife with the goal to release back to nature. We provide educational opportunities to communities to foster a respect for our wild neighbors and implement humane non-lethal programs. We are dedicated to providing humane solutions for co-existing with wildlife. We believe there is always a humane answer to any wildlife issue. We are an all volunteer organization and no one gets a salary.

Mom Hides Her Wildlife Babies

All these wildlife babies have one thing in common. Their mother hides them from us and predators.



Now that spring is here many people want to clean up their yards and some may even want to take down trees. Before you do, please check for nests. Squirrel nests are very high in trees and look like a mass of dead leaves. Look for holes or natural cavities in tree trunks where moms with baby owls, hawks, raccoons, squirrel and opossum may have set up their home. Also look for white residue on tree trunks and at the base of trees, or balls of fur or feathers which can indicate the tree is hiding a wildlife family. Please don't assume the sound of a chain saw will scare them out. Unfortunately we receive many orphaned wildlife babies after the tree has been taken down and many get injured by the chain saw. If you think a nest is present please delay tree cutting and call Wildlife Rescue for advice.

This is also the time of year we start cutting our grass and fields. It is always a good idea to cut the grass and fields early in the year before it gets too long and continue cutting on a regular schedule. If the grass is not cut early, both rabbit and deer mothers will think this is a safe place for their babies. Deer start having their babies appropriately around Mother's Day. For the fawn's first month, the mother will park their fawn baby in tall grass for many hours and usually do not return until dusk. They tell their babies to stay put and they do, even when a huge, noisy mower comes along. If grass is already very long, as it is when bailed for hay, a walk through is the only way to be sure no fawns are present. Walk in a zig zag pattern and check for fawns and other wildlife babies before you mow to prevent a tragedy.

MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

Memorial and Tribute Gifts honor a special family member, friend or pet while supporting Wildlife Rescue's programs. The following Memorial and Tribute Gifts were received from 11/1/15 to 4/30/16.

In Memory of:

Hanna Crafton ~ Lise & James Crafton
~ Grace Batton
~ Ann Logsdon
Mel Carlson ~ Helen & Richard Larrick
~ Betty Carlson
My Beloved Cat BJ ~ Sandra Markowitz
Bertie ~ Wade & Evelyn Kach
Dave ~ Don Fischer
Bay Ridge Deer ~ Irene Howie

In Honor of:

Chris Lottman
~ Kevin & Marieke Rack
Adam & Kelly Austin
~ Melinda Metz
Theo, My blind & deaf bunny who is so loved
~ Janelle Dietrich

Wildlife Parents:

Fawn Adoption In Memory of Fresh
~ Jackie Kendall
Bird Adoption In Memory of Kallie
~ Margaret Zellers
Bird Adoption In Memory of Our Brave Boy Pete & My Gal Winnah ~ Theresa & John Reifsnider
Fox Adoption In Memory of Mel Carlson
~ Patricia Carlson

Wildlife Myths

As rehabilitators, we are constantly confronted with myths and misconceptions about wildlife. Some of these beliefs will do serious harm to wildlife so here are the facts.

I can help the baby animal by giving it some milk. NO! Cow's milk will kill most baby animals. Under no circumstances should you ever give a baby wild animal cow's milk or any food, for that matter. Cow's milk will generally cause extreme diarrhea which in many cases can not be controlled and leads to death.

If you touch a baby animal, the mother will reject it. NO! No mother, wild or human, will reject her baby because someone touches it. It is best to leave it alone and not touch it unless it is in real trouble. The falsehood that mother birds will abandon their offspring if touched by a human derives from the belief that birds can pick up on human scent. In fact, most birds have a rather poor sense of smell and are unlikely to readily abandon their young.

The baby fawn has been abandoned by its mother. NO! Mother deer leave their babies alone usually at dawn to go foraging for food for the entire day and will come back at dusk to feed the baby. Unless there are flies around the baby or it is crying, please leave it alone!

If I find a wild baby animal, I can raise it myself as long as I have a bottle or syringe and milk. NO! Unless you have a wildlife rehabilitator's license issued by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources it is illegal for you to keep baby wildlife. Please call a trained rehabilitator who is licensed if you find a baby in trouble.



If I see a Raccoon during the day it must have rabies. NO! Yes it is normal to see a female raccoon during the daylight hours in the spring and early summer. Mother raccoons are very dedicated and protective and when they have young babies they feed during the day so the infants are not left alone and vulnerable during the night when other raccoons are active. While it is always wise to use caution, Please do not trap or shoot a raccoon simply because it is visible during daylight hours. Most of our orphans are a result of uninformed people panicking and killing or removing a mother because they see her during the day and think she must be rabid.

Rosie's Back!



The deer are increasing in Maryland. NOT TRUE! The Maryland Department of Natural Resources recently stated the deer population in Maryland decreased in the last decade from about 300,000 to 200,000. It only seems like there are more deer due to over development. Where there used to be farms and woodlands, the deer lived without human contact, now there are homes, businesses and roads so we see deer more in smaller more visible spaces.

Life-Saving Rescue or Kidnapping?

Guidelines on this website will help you decide if a rescue is in order or if the baby is fine and should be left alone. On our home page click on the animal you have a question about or call us at 410-357-5179



A WORD ABOUT TRAPPING

Please note that the live trapping of "nuisance" wildlife often leads to wild animal babies being unintentionally orphaned. This is because spring and summer are when many wild animals attempt to use chimneys, attics, and outbuildings as sites in which to raise their young. It may seem like a kind solution to trap and relocate a wild animal, but a high mortality rate among relocated animals, and orphans being left behind to starve, are the all-too-frequent results. We strongly discourage the trapping of wildlife for these reasons.

www.urbanwildliferescue.org/humane will tell you lots of ways to use humane eviction without trapping and without harming the animal if an animal is in your house, attic, yard or a visiting nuisance.

Non-Lethal Deer Birth Control Update

During the 5th year of our deer project in 2015 when we were permitted to manage our deer population using non-lethal deer sterilization, our principal researcher/cooperator suggested doing our project every other year given the challenge of finding does who were not already sterilized.

As the Board of Directors of Wildlife Rescue, Inc., we had to agree. It did make more sense to manage our deer population with sterilization every other year since we were continuing to see a limited amount of untagged does in the project area. We also had only observed a couple of resident fawns all year. That is until a group of orphaned fawns from hunting season showed up, but still putting us in a good position to wait.

Deer birth control continued to make more progress in Maryland with both NIH using sterilization for a 2nd year and at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg. At NIST the Humane Society of The United States utilized the expertise of our principal researcher and veterinarians who had worked on our deer project in Baltimore County. Remote-injection tranquilizer darts were used for capture and 61 surgeries were done.

We look forward to continuing the success of our project and hopefully adding some new communities in Maryland now that the staff of the Humane Society of the United States are licensed to take on new deer sterilization and immunocontraception projects.

In other states, the 3rd year of the deer spay project by the Humane Deer Management Group continued in Fairfax City, Virginia and the 2nd year of the Spay A Doe Program continued in the Hamptons in New York. In addition, the first deer sterilization project in the history of Ohio was implemented in Cincinnati and we helped!

Dear Enid and Lierra,
(Our Wildlife Rescue, Inc. Board Members)

As we enter year two of our sterilization program here in Cincinnati, we want to just stop and say thank you for all your help. I don't think it is hyperbole to say that, but for your generous sharing of information, introductions to Tony (DeNicola, WB) and Stephanie (Boyles-Griffin, HSUS), and wise counsel, hunters would be out killing our deer today.

We had very little idea how politically, emotionally, and scientifically complicated alternatives to lethal culling were when we dove into this effort to "save our deer." Your credible guidance through the many steps up our steep learning curve helped us around dangerous pitfalls and gave us confidence to push on in the face of daunting challenges.

And all this with friendship and good humor!

We hope to offer counsel to others who come behind us just as you did for us. But our first bit of advice will always be, "call Enid and Lierra!"

Thank you again.
Chris Lottman, President
CliftonDeer.org



Two happy and very healthy deer (Mom & Daughter) from year 1 and year 3 of our Baltimore County deer project!

Winter Raffle Winners

1st Prize *Kristie Grabill*

2nd Prize *Norma Beer*

3rd Prize *Pam Stewart*



Thank you to our raffle winners for donating their prize back to the animals!

Thank you to Ziggy, for helping us choose our Raffle Winners. We rescued Ziggy after a board member found him injured and emaciated. After many months of rehabilitation and TLC he is doing great!

Thank You!

All Our Volunteers – For donating so much of your time for our wildlife babies!

Becky Wolff of Dramatic Visions LLC – For our great website!

Our Vets, their Staff and the organizations who work hand in hand with us!

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Barbara Connor,
Wildlife Director

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Vice President of Communications and Secretary

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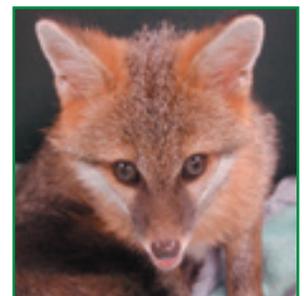
Gerda Deterer
Wayne Deterer



Wildlife Adoption

By Donating \$100.00 or more you can become a "Wildlife Parent"

Your adoption will contribute to their daily care which includes veterinary treatment, food, housing and special treats. For each adoption you will receive a certificate with a color photo of the animal species of your choice, a beautiful Wildlife Rescue reusable tote bag or a T-shirt (your choice) and in the next newsletter you will receive recognition of your adoption.



Certificate of Fawn Adoption In Memory of Gerda



www.wildliferescueinc.org

I am a white-tail deer fawn.

I was rescued and brought to Wildlife Rescue, Inc. Fawns come here when they are attacked by domestic dogs, suffer from lawn mower and farm equipment injuries, or when their Mom's get killed.

Here I will be bottle fed 3 times a day and stay with other rescued fawns in a fenced in pasture. I will start to nibble on grass and hay at about 6 weeks old and will be weaned off my bottle slowly and given whole corn and deer pellets to supplement my diet. When I am about 3 months old, I will still have my spots but I will be strong enough to forage for food on my own and I will be released back to the wild.

Fearing her scent may attract predators, a mother deer leaves her fawn alone most of the day. If you encounter a fawn lying quietly by itself - and it looks healthy - leave it alone. Mom will be back.