

WILD LIFELINE

Wildlife In Need Center Volunteer Newsletter

March 2007

PATIENT SPOTLIGHT

Early November brought us a Great Horned Owl in pretty rough shape. In addition to being very dehydrated and emaciated, the left foot was very swollen due to a massive infection. Antibiotics and daily wound care didn't seem to be doing the trick. The owl was then taken to Wisconsin Humane Society to undergo surgery by our new volunteer veterinarian, Dr. Holly Pollard.



Dr. Pollard amputated the most compromised toe and was able to remove the damaged tissue from within the foot. Upon return to WINC, the owl was fitted with special "boots" made of water noodles to cushion the foot while it healed. Not long after the surgery, the owl was ready for pre-release conditioning. Thanks to one of our dedicated volunteers, the owl was transported to Pine View Rehab Center in Fredonia for live-prey testing. After proving itself to still be capable of hunting, the owl will be taken back to Sullivan where it came from!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Here at the WINC, we greatly rely on the wonderful individuals who volunteer their time here with us to help us accomplish our mission of rehabilitating Wisconsin's native wildlife. In 2005, we enlisted the help of an outstanding individual who has proven himself to be a great asset to WINC in many ways.

Rick Mathieu volunteers at the Center twice a week in the animal care department. Not only can we always rely on him to be present for his two weekly shifts, we can almost guarantee that he'll show up before his shift even starts, rarin' to go! In addition, we can always count on him to rescue and transport animals in need of assistance. In fact, it was Rick who volunteered to chauffeur our feisty friend the amputee great horned owl to Fredonia for pre-release conditioning.

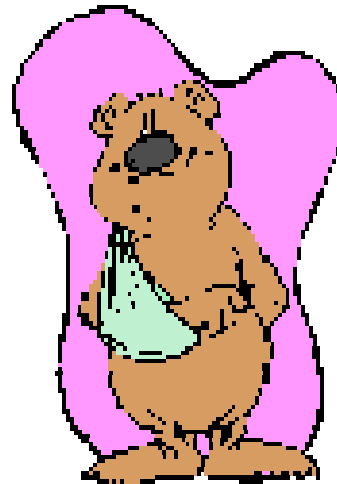
Thank-you Rick for sharing your wonderful personality and great compassion for animals with all of us here at the Wildlife In Need Center!



Welcome Aboard, Dr. Pollard!

Those of you at the Wildlife In Need Center on Thursdays will be seeing a new face! Dr. Holly Pollard-Wright, an orthopedic specialist at the VCA Associates in Pet Care of Waukesha, is now volunteering her time at the Center to assist in the diagnosing and treatment of our wildlife patients. Her past experience includes time spent at the Wildlife Center of Virginia, the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota, and the wildlife branch of the Wisconsin Humane Society. She is a great asset to WINC and we are very grateful to have her working with us!

Thank-you, Dr. Pollard!!



****NEW!****

Beginning March 1st, we are centralizing the location for time-off requests and schedule changes. Volunteers will now turn in your request form to the red-roofed bird feeder located in the office next to the volunteer sign-in sheet. The new process will help us maintain more accurate shift calendars and scheduling of volunteers.

Solve Your Empty Nest Problems!



The Wildlife In Need Center is looking for individuals interested in providing temporary housing for our summer interns during 2007. Please contact WINC at (262) 968-5075 with any questions or for more information.

New faces



Please welcome the following new volunteers:

Shawn Whelan— Wednesday afternoons
Margaret Bachman—Monday afternoons
Chris Wehrenberg—in training

VOLUNTEER REMINDERS

If you are unable to volunteer on your scheduled day due to sickness, last minute circumstance, etc. please call the Center (262-968-5075) at least a day in advance, or well before your shift begins, so that a replacement may be found.

For all other schedule requests/changes, please contact Karen Freitag.

Training Opportunities

During the off-season the WINC will be offering various training sessions and/or informational presentations for its volunteers. These will take place every month @ Brandybrook at 7 pm (will last roughly an hour). Each topic will be covered twice in an attempt to reduce schedule conflicts for potential attendees. Please see below for this season's topics.

March 18 & 21 - Medications/Injections
April 15 & 19 - Infant Mammals

Hope to see you there!

Mark Your Calendars!!

All current volunteers are asked to attend one of the New Volunteer Orientations.

Wednesday, March 28, 7-9 pm
or
Saturday, March 31, 1-3 pm

Your attendance is requested, as the new Volunteer Assessment/Checklist will be presented. In addition, we'll be covering updated volunteer information and protocols.

Thanks for your cooperation!!

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