



"DUCK TALES"

Wild Care's Monthly E-News



To learn more about Wild Care, visit our web site!

www.wildcarecapecod.org

Brady Bunch Branchers

By Wild Care Animal Care Coordinator
Jennifer Taylor

No orphans are lucky to start with, but everything seemed to fall into place for our first batch of orphaned Eastern Screech Owls. An observant rescuer in Dennis, found their downed nest after tree work. Two babies were brought to us after the parents did not return. The next day a third one was found. We hydrated them and handled them as little as possible. Within a few days they were eating well and back to good health. We contacted Norman Smith, Executive Director of the Mass Audubon Blue Hills Trailside Museum in Milton, hoping he would be able to foster them into an active nest...

Director's Message

We currently have 74 animals in our care. Just now, a baby Eastern Cottontail rabbit was brought to our door after a cat disrupted its nest. The rabbit has a laceration on its neck, and will be placed on antibiotics and supportive care. It will then go to the caring hands of our rabbit rehabilitator, until it is ready to be released back into the wild once again.

Every animal has a story.

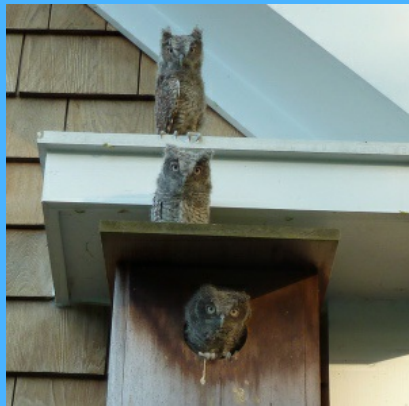
While their story provides a reminder that humans often play a negative impact on the lives of animals, they also remind us that there are kind and compassionate people out there. People who take the time to bring animals to our door, and will rescue even the smallest of patients in distress. One such patient is this orphaned White-footed Mouse.

Norm is well known for his lifelong work with raptors including the Snowy Owls at Logan Airport.



Before...

Within a week after rescue, they were driven up to Blue Hills and placed into a foster nest with three other owlets at Norm's own property! We're lucky that owls can't count. :) Another happy ending!



Fledged for Memorial Day Weekend!
Photo by Norman Smith

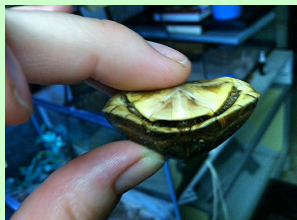
Baby Box Turtles

by Jennifer Taylor

This past Fall, a mother and son brought us a tiny Eastern Box turtle hatchling weighing only 14 grams. He was alert and active, but it was apparent that some kind of animal had attempted to have him for dinner. His head, limbs and tail were fine, but his top shell was chipped in two places and he had a wound on his plastron (bottom shell) at his hinge. Box turtles need this hinge to effectively close themselves into their shell...

The wound was bound and bandaged for several weeks until it healed. We

wintered this little guy over in a private habitat of moist sphagnum moss, proper lighting, access to warmth, and served him small



This baby mouse was brought to Wild Care after it fell out of insulation in a basement in Harwich. Mother mouse was nowhere to be found. The mouse weighing only 5 grams (as much as a pencil) is doing well in our care and is beginning to eat out of his "mush" bowl, a mix of mouse formula and baby cereal. Mouse will be released when he meets the 12 gram mark. He's got a ways to go!

[Please make a donation today!](#) Help us to continue providing the individualized care that we give to our native Cape Cod wildlife every day.

Sincerely,
Stephanie
Executive Director



Photo by Stephanie Ellis

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amounts of mostly yummy assorted worms.

As you can see, he passed the, "Can he close up his shell?" test. He will be released in June! Photo/Amy Webster

Persuading our Ring-Tailed Neighbors

By Jennifer Taylor

This Spring we have helped reunite several animal families while solving conflicts that happen with people. We have successfully instructed callers over the phone to use gentle harassment techniques like playing radios and using vinegar to convince mother raccoons to relocate their babies OUT from their chimney and boat homes, to more acceptable and safer places. Giving a mother time to be convinced that her present nest site is no longer hospitable, is a kind and efficient way to get them to leave where you don't want them to be. This way her alternative nest site will be baby perfect, and everyone is happy with little effort expended.



Please consider making a donation today. We are the only local wildlife hospital that assists with rescues!

Volunteer Spotlight

Wild Care has over 150 volunteers. We couldn't do what we do without them! Here's our chance to highlight some outstanding volunteers. This month we would like to spotlight volunteer **Swede Plaut**.

Swede has been volunteering with Wild Care since July 2011. He serves as one of our rescue volunteers, and never

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Wild Care's 22nd Annual Yard Sale!



June 11th, 9AM-12PM at the Harwich Community Center!

Spring is here and you may have already started a big clean-out of your garage and attic. When you discover treasures you are willing to part with, put them aside for Wild Care's Yard Sale. We are accepting Yard Sale donations June 10th, 1-6 PM at Harwich Community Ctr.

Seeking new treasures? You'd better come to our Sale on June 11th, we've got hundreds of items to choose from!

Check out our [website](#) for all the details on what, and how you can donate. Or contact Jan Raffaele, Yard Sale Coordinator at ferals18@msn.com, 774-237-0797 for more information, and for **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** for this popular and fun annual event. We are still in need of volunteers for June 10th and June 11th!

passes up a chance to save an animal. Most recently, Swede rescued a mother opossum for us, despite the fact that he just had his eyes dilated at the optometrist (he had a driver). :)

Swede is highly skilled at animal rescue. He has done rescues from his kayak, and is also a dedicated IFAW volunteer. We absolutely adore him, and hate when he goes on vacation... because then we are without him! Thank you Swede from the staff and the critters. You are absolutely amazing. <3



Wild Care Volunteer
Swede Plaut



Wild Care is Having A Baby Shower!

You're Invited! Our baby songbirds, opossums, and bunnies are arriving at our wildlife clinic. Help us prepare for their arrival. Have a guided visit of some of our outdoor enclosures. Enjoy light refreshments and take home a party favor. [Details here...](#)

Stop by Wild Care on Saturday, June 18th, between 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. No need to RSVP. Just stop by!

Baby Shower gifts are greatly appreciated. Print out our Baby Shower [wishlist!](#)

Donate today to help us treat injured, orphaned and ill wildlife this Spring.
[Click here to donate!](#)

Wild Care

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About Wild Care

Since 1994, Wild Care has treated injured, ill and orphaned native wildlife for release back into the wild capable of independent survival, prevented wildlife casualties through public education and counseling, and engaged the community in conservation services through volunteerism. Wild Care does not charge the public for our services. We accept wildlife regardless of a rescuer's ability to make a donation; and we never compromise quality of care or the dignity of an animal's life for fundraising purposes.