



Wild Care's Duck Tales Monthly E-News

To learn more about Wild Care, visit our website!

www.wildcarecapecod.org

Director's Message

March, 2020
Wild Care Friends

It has been a mild winter. We've seen the usual winter suspects arriving at our door - waterfowl! Including Common Eider and White-winged Scoter. Common Eider breed in small numbers on the Boston Harbor Islands, but breed predominantly further north, from Hudson Bay to the Arctic. They are seen from our shores in greater numbers in the winter, feeding on mollusks, a favorite food. White-winged Scoter do not breed in Massachusetts. They breed in northern boreal forests and remote interior lakes, but can be seen in huge flocks along our coast and offshore in the winter. The adult male White-winged Scoter is a conspicuous and beautiful duck, with a white "crescent" pattern around a strikingly blue eye.

This White-winged Scoter (photo) came to us on January 1st from Rock Harbor, Orleans. The bird was extremely debilitated, dehydrated and thin, and had head trauma and a large wound on its rump. The bird was treated with fluids, antibiotics, wound

Please consider making a
Donation today!

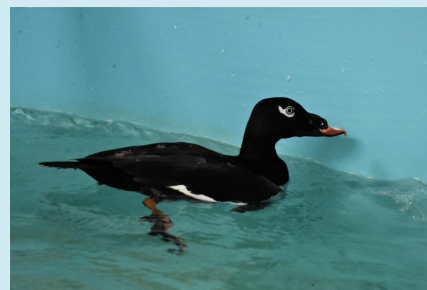


Photo: White-winged Scoter by Kerry Reid.

Happy to report that this beautiful duck did very well in our care. The wound healed and did not compromise the bird's waterproofing. He was released on Feb. 22nd after nearly a 2 month stay!

Help Wild Care's Expansion Project Become a Reality. We Are So Close!

At Wild Care, we provide life-saving care for injured and orphaned wildlife on Cape Cod. We receive almost 10,000 phone calls per year, and treat over 1,800 patients. WOW!

Our success is a direct result of the support this amazing community has shown us, and we are incredibly grateful.

Spring is just around the corner, and soon, hundreds of baby animals will begin arriving through our door. Our numbers continue to grow every year. While we do everything in our power to accommodate the influx of phone calls and patients, we have dramatically outgrown our small facility space.



However, we have a solution, our Clinic and Education Expansion Project.

This project will provide separate washing, disinfecting and food prep areas. We will have a warm and welcoming reception and educational area for people bringing in injured animals.



Wild Care utilizes one small space to clean dishes, disinfect patient apparatus and prep meals and meds.

Pictured here (top right and left, and bottom right) is current cleaning counter, showing our 3-step disinfecting process, and lack of space.

At the bottom left: We are limited to one small counter for food and med prep.

Overall, an expanded kitchen will greatly enhance our capacity to accept more animals that need life-saving care, and our Education Center will enhance our educational outreach.

We have successfully raised \$300,000 dollars for this expansion, and have \$48,000 to go, to see this much-needed expansion become a reality.

Rehabilitation work is not easy at all – think about how sick a wild animal has to be to accept care from a human?

Though some may not survive – we work hard to save all that come to our door.

Wild Care has the expertise; we now need your help to build new infrastructure to accommodate and save more animals.

Please consider helping us in the



home stretch of this project and make a donation today!

At Wild Care, every dollar makes a difference and every animal matters!

[MORE INFO](#)



Another Lucky Duck



Photo by Jayne Fowler.

By Jennifer Taylor, Animal Care Coordinator

Last week we received some calls about a duck struggling under a dock, near the Belmont in Harwich. It was caught on something and could not fly or swim away, and just kept circling around a piling. Our wonderful staff member, Jayne Fowler, saved the day with the help of her son, Jordan. They safely contained the duck using a net, assessing that it had a long line tethered to its right leg.

[Full Story](#)

A "True" Duck Tale



Adventures of a Wild Care Volunteer, by Amy Sanders

Not too long after I moved here year round in 1987 (my ancestors have lived on my land since the late 1600s, but for me it was a summer place as my folks worked in CT), I took myself to the beach to watch the waves after a storm had passed. While many people prefer sunny bright beach days, I actually have always loved a moody beach.

It was probably an October weekend, mid-day with thick, heavy clouds, but I think not raining. The waves were not the expected washing-machine sort, but rather well formed and quite tall. So, I sat down in the damp sand to watch for a bit. In those days, I was an avid body surfer and the waves were perfect.

Note: This is not the duck from the story. This is Ilean, Wild Care's resident foster duck!

Photo by Kerry Reid.

[Full Story](#)

Wild Winter Night is WILDLY Successful for Wild Care!

Wild Care raised over \$42,000 to continue providing life-saving care for wildlife, including \$12,000 for Wild Care's upcoming Clinic and Education Center Expansion Project.

Nearly 200 guests enjoyed the delightful live music of Bert Jackson and Scott Lariviere. George's Place Fish Market of Harwich Port donated and prepared Lobster Rolls, Fish & Chips, and Clam Chowder. Desserts were donated by Sweet Rose Cafe of Fall River. The evening also included a silent auction of hundreds of items, art, gift certificates, and prize drawings. An energized live auction was hosted by Master of Ceremonies, Richard Provencher.

[Full Article](#) from Cape Cod Today, February 14th, 2020

[MORE INFO](#) on Wild Winter Night



Enjoy this video of pictures taken by our wonderful Volunteer Photographer, Leo Seletsky.



Early Bird Special was a big hit. Thanks to all who supported and enjoyed meeting our Animal Ambassadors! Pictured above, Jennifer Taylor, Animal Care Coordinator, Volunteer Event Coordinator, Jan Raffaele, and Amy Sanders, Volunteer of Many Talents.

**Wild Care was chosen
as Shaw's "GIVE BACK
WHERE IT COUNTS"
Reusable Bag Program
recipient, in March!**



The Shaw's GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag Program is designed to make it easy for Shaw's customers to contribute to their local community, while supporting the environment. With every purchase of the \$2.50 reusable GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Bag, \$1 is donated to Wild Care for the month of March. Thank YOU to [Shaw's](#) of Orleans, 9 West Road, Orleans, MA.

Visit and get your bag, all March long!

View our Year End Appeal



"Why Wildlife Matters"



With Stephanie Ellis, Wild Care Executive Director

Friday, March 13th, 11 AM

Wildlife often go unnoticed, taken for granted or thought of as pests. In our busy lives, we forget how much we depend on wildlife to maintain balance in the natural world, and how much our wild neighbors depend on us to protect and preserve them and their habitats. Instead, we as humans have a tendency to get in their way.

Join Stephanie, Executive Director of Wild Care, who will discuss the direct human impacts she sees at Wild Care, Inc., a wildlife rehabilitation hospital located in Eastham, MA. Stephanie will explain why wildlife rehabilitation is important, and will provide tips for how each and every one of us can reduce our footprint and co-exist with our wild neighbors. Stephanie will make you think differently about that "pesky" squirrel in your backyard. Join her for this informative talk!

MEET GARV, WILD CARE'S EDUCATIONAL EASTERN BOX TURTLE!

Hosted by the Eastham Council on Aging,
1405 Nauset Rd., North Eastham.

CALL 774.801.3151 to RSVP.

FREE – ALL ARE WELCOME!



"My Neighbors are Wild!"



With Amy Sanders, Wild Care Volunteer

Friday, April 10th, 11 AM

"Help! A bird struck my window..." "There's a baby squirrel at my doorstep... Now what?" Wild Care, Inc. is a nonprofit wildlife hospital located in Eastham that is dedicated to the rescue and release of injured and orphaned wildlife on Cape Cod. Wild Care operates a Wildlife Helpline, and rehabilitates over 1,800 animals per year; everything from Bald Eagles to White-footed Mice. Volunteer, Amy Sanders, will cover "what to do" when you find animals in distress, who to call on Cape Cod, and will provide tips for living with our wild neighbors. Join Amy for this fun and informative talk!

MEET UP UP, WILD CARE'S EDUCATIONAL EASTERN SCREECH OWL!

Hosted by the Eastham Council on Aging,
1405 Nauset Rd., North Eastham.

CALL 774.801.3151 to RSVP.

FREE – ALL ARE WELCOME!



Galápagos

The Untouched Lands

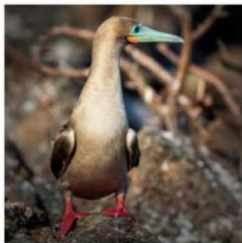


A Spring Talk with Stephanie Ellis

Barnstable Adult Community Center

825 Falmouth Road, Hyannis

Thursday, April 16th at 11AM



Wild Care's Executive Director recently visited the Galápagos Islands on a National Geographic Lindblad voyage.

Join Stephanie through a vivid photographic presentation of the eastern Galápagos Islands. Learn why the unique flora, fauna and fragile ecosystems of the Galápagos are a must see for all wildlife enthusiasts, and why they deserve our protection for generations to come.



\$10 - RSVP Required

www.townofbarnstable.us/coa

Mail a Check:

Barnstable Adult Community Center

825 Falmouth Road, Hyannis 02601

Call: 508.862.4750



"Why Wildlife Matters"

Sponsored by Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

April 22, 2020 (Wednesday) 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Location: Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, South Wellfleet MA

Audience: Family (suitable for children 4 & up)

Members: Adult \$10.00, Child \$10.00

Nonmembers: Adult \$12.00, Child \$12.00

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one of us can reduce our footprint and co-exist with our wild neighbors. Stephanie will make you think differently about that "pesky" squirrel in your backyard. Join us for this informative talk!

MORE INFO AND RSVP (Photo by Kerry Reid.)



OUR FRIENDS AT ***FRIENDS OF CAPE WILDLIFE*** ARE LOOKING TO HOOK UP WITH YOU.

Who we are, in a nutshell.

The Friends of Cape Wildlife (FCW) (friendsofcapewildlife.org) is a non-profit group of Cape Codders committed to educating the general public about wildlife conservation and, through its hotline, assisting individuals with advice on how to handle unplanned wildlife encounters, particularly those involving distressed wildlife. Sometimes we're involved in rescues.

How we fit with Wild Care.

FCW runs a Cape Cod hotline which often triages patients to Wild Care. Being symbiotic entities, we have a natural bond with Stephanie Ellis and the folks at Wild Care. We speak the same language. We share the same concerns. We get similar phone calls. And our volunteer profile is nearly identical. So with all this in common, we have a question.

Will you consider helping out on our hotline?

What this looks like:

- 1. We need more new hotline volunteers in day or night shifts;** we usually ask for four-hour shifts but are flexible. Because there is training expense involved, we ask for a minimum commitment of four hours per week through the fall.
- 2. The hotline volunteering is done via your cell phone,** so you would be doing this in the comfort of your home or wherever you happen to be where you're able to conduct a phone conversation.
- 3. No prerequisites** (*stuff you had to have done before you can do this*) **but lots of perquisites** (*perks!*). Your love and desire to help wild animals will tickle you every time you take a call and help a person and an innocent critter out of a predicament. Often you're just gently enforcing common sense while other times you will be arranging a rescue. The experience offers the possibility of a little excitement and a big sense of accomplishment — all without leaving your living room!
- 4. If you're a rescuer and you know it, clap your hands.** There are two kinds of hotline volunteers. The hotline heroes, and the hotline rescuer heroes. Not everyone is cut out to do rescues, but some of us are. You may realize right now you're a rescuer -- you may find that out during training. A rescuer will rescue or transport animals in the off-hours when Wild Care and places like that aren't open. We need a list of volunteers in every town on the Cape who are willing to be called to come to the scene if and when the need arises in their town.

Interested? Want to know more or sign up?

Drop us a line: friends@friendsofcapewildlife.org

Thank you!

Volunteer Spotlight

by Stephanie Ellis, Executive Director



Wild Care is grateful for our volunteers! We would not survive without them. This month, we'd like to highlight outstanding volunteer, **Jan Raffaele**.

Jan Raffaele is a Wild Care Volunteer who runs our Wild Winter Night event and our Yard Sale every year.

This year, Wild Winter Night raised over \$42,000 for Wild Care. This event was successful because of her tireless dedication and commitment to the cause. She contributed literally hundreds of hours organizing this event behind the scenes.

We are grateful to Jan for all that she does for Wild Care. Her dedication, tenacity, resiliency, and she definitely gets things done.

Thank you to Jan for consistently raising the bar each year with every event you undertake.

Thank you, volunteers!
We ♥ you.

We've got one-of-a-kind Designs.

Purchase at Wild Care daily in our lobby between the hours of 9AM-5PM. 10 Smith Ln., Eastham, or contact Kerry between the hours of 10AM-2PM, M-F to purchase over *the phone* at (508) 240-2255.

Merchandise shipping charges vary.

Click to See All Merchandise!

If you were thinking about purchasing something through Amazon soon, we would be grateful if you used our [Smile](#) account. There is no additional cost to you, but there is a nice donation to Wild Care!

If you are already a customer of Amazon and have already registered us as your charity, don't forget every time you shop to go to <https://smile.amazon.com>, instead of their standard site.

And don't forget to take a look at our **Amazon Wishlist**, below!



We're always in need of supplies. Visit our Amazon Wishlist and add Wild Care to your shopping cart!

[Click here to donate!](#)

Wild Care, Inc.

10 Smith Lane
Eastham, MA 02642

info@wildcarecapecod.org

508-240-2255

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. We have 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.

[Visit our website](#)

