



To learn more about Wild Care, visit our website!

www.wildcarecapecod.org

Director's Message

April, 2020

Greetings Wild Care Friends!

We hope you are all healthy and safe during this unsettling time. We want you all to know that during this time of uncertainty, Wild Care is still here as an essential service, albeit with a few temporary changes for everyone's health and safety. We've had to ask all our volunteers to refrain from their volunteer shifts until further notice, we've postponed our educational outreach programs, and we've limited the hours our staff is physically on-site at our facility, and even this changes daily according to the needs of our patients.

However, we continue to monitor our Wildlife Helpline from 9 AM – 5 PM daily, both on-site and remotely. Because of these changes, we

Please consider making a Donation today! We need you as much as you need us.

ask that you **PLEASE CALL FIRST** before dropping off an animal: **508-240-2255**. If you leave a message, we will get back to you.

Remember, after 5PM, please contact the **Friends of Cape Wildlife** hotline, **508-375-3700**.

More specifics about Wild Care's COVID-19 [**response efforts can be found here**](#).

We are extremely fortunate to keep our doors open during this time of crisis, thanks to the generous support we receive from people like YOU, year-round. Like everyone else, we fear the financial repercussions of this pandemic, which has left many people jobless. We fully realize that many will not be able to provide charitable gifts in the foreseeable future. If you are able, please consider a [**Donation**](#) today.

Please stay safe and well, everyone. Thank you all for your thoughtful messages and big hearts!

Executive Director, *Stephanie*



Mute Swan. Photo by Leah Myrbeck

CURRENT ANIMALS IN CARE:

We have a small number of patients in our care at this time, including this Mute Swan that was hit by a car in Dennis, and was stuck in the car's grill. We are grateful that the people who struck the bird, brought it to Wild Care. The swan is recovering, and has a big healthy attitude, and appetite.

Check our [**Facebook**](#) page where we continue to post updates and uplifting stories!

Caring People and an Effective Telephone Chain!

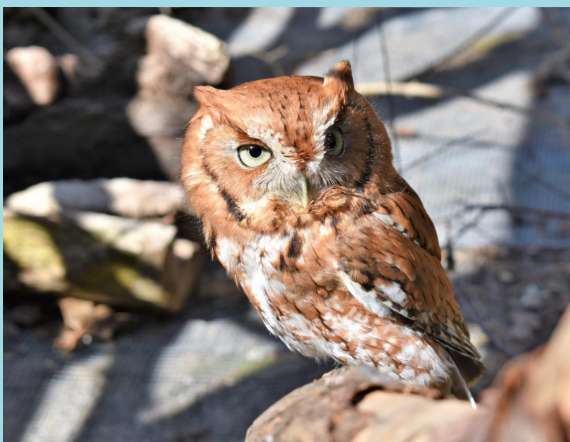


Photo by Kerry Reid

By Jennifer Taylor, Animal Care Coordinator

By mid-March, Wild Care had already received 13 patients who have been hit by cars. Last year in total, it was well over 100. Unfortunately, most injuries from vehicle strikes are life threatening and many animals cannot recover from their wounds. But, this was not the case for a lucky Eastern Screech Owl this March!

A few weeks ago in Eastham, a young woman was driving at night. Suddenly she heard the thud of a bird hit her side window. She backtracked and found a little red owl in the road. When she approached it tried to fly away but could only flutter in circles and remained on the road.

The woman called her mother, who called Wild Care, who's after hours message was to call the Friends of Cape Wildlife. Deb Walther from FCW called me knowing I



lived much closer than she to the owl in crisis. I then called the woman who struck the bird. She was very willing to stay with the owl until I could get there, which took about 20 minutes...

[Full Story](#)

[YouTube Video by Wild Care](#) shows the owl while it was still regaining strength in our care.

"Squirrely Times!"



Adventures of a Wild Care Volunteer, by Amy Sanders

I'm sure you'd all agree; these are odd times indeed—unprecedented for all of us. "Social Distancing" (or more accurately, "physical distancing") affects everyone, even Wild Care. Of course Wild Care is phenomenal with cleaning and disinfecting all the time, but even so, when isolation was requested from the state, Wild Care responded accordingly by buckling down even harder. Closing wasn't really a viable option because animals in general don't stop getting hurt, sick, and orphaned regardless of state orders. (Wild Care provides an "Essential Service".)

So, protocol quickly became, among other things, one person only in the building, and no volunteers on the premises. That meant no volunteers for cleaning or laundry which is a huge task even when there are few animals. There are typically 1-3 volunteers in daily to help the staff with this in the "off season." There also are often at least 2 staff members. Now all that work became the job of one person, in times when cleaning was extra important.



Photos by Amy Sanders

[Full Story](#) (*trust me, its about squirrels!*)

Some Facebook Shares

Recognizing that not everyone who loves Wild Care utilizes Facebook, and given the shortage of events, we thought we'd share a few of our Facebook posts here!

Look at this gorgeous leucistic* American Robin seen this week in the backyard of Heidi Filmer-Gallagher in Brewster.

From Heidi: "Spring birds are back, our newest visitor is a leucistic (loo-Kiss-tic) robin. We named it Lou!"

* "Leucism" is a condition in which there is partial loss of pigmentation in an animal— which causes white, pale, or patchy coloration of the skin, hair, feathers, scales or cuticle, but not the eyes. "Albinism" is the congenital absence of any pigmentation or coloration in an animal, resulting in white hair, feathers, scales and skin and pink eyes. (From Wiki)



We love you Stephanie!

Wild Care Friends.

Today [March 28] is my 4 year Anniversary as Executive Director of Wild Care. I want to thank my incredible staff, volunteers, and all of YOU, for making it such a wonderful and memorable four years. Grateful to be at the helm of this amazing organization which provides important services to the people and wildlife of Cape Cod. To many more! ☐☐

Executive Director, Stephanie ~
With Garv. Our Eastern Box Turtle celebrity.

Looks like someone did not get the social distancing memo. ☐

☐☹☐

White-tailed Deer in Dennis.
Photo by Carl Jacobs

Executive Director,
Stephanie ~...

(Stole this photo quote from Cindy Coulter! ☺)



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

There are no events scheduled in May, due to COVID-19. But stay tuned! There are several outreach events to be rescheduled when things are back to normal. Looking forward to June and July!

Wild Care Yard Sale



**Saturday, June 13, 2020
9 AM EST – 1 PM EST
Harwich Community Center,
100 Oak Street
Harwich, MA**

TO DONATE: Bring your USABLE, CLEAN and PRICED items to the Harwich Community Center on Friday June 12, 2020 from 1 PM to 7 PM. We can accept: home decor, housewares, tools, sports equipment, small working appliances, lamps, art & frames, light-weight furniture, jewelry, and modern books.

We are unable to accept: TV's; computers or computer monitors; non-working, large and older appliances; Christmas items; clothing; heavy furniture; and animal fur or feathers.

We reserve the right to not accept items that are objectionable.

TO VOLUNTEER: We need volunteers on both Friday and Saturday. Contact Jan Raffaele, Yard Sale Volunteer Coordinator, at ferals18@msn.com or call 774-237-0797.

[Read more...](#)

"Swooping in for Wild Care" Saturday, July 18, 2020

hosted by [Addison Art Gallery](#)

43 South Orleans Road
Orleans, MA 02653
508.255.6200



By SaraJane Doberstein

Artists from across the Cape and beyond are joining the Addison Art Gallery in support of Wild Care. Spearheaded by artists SaraJane Doberstein and Amy Sanders, and Helen Addison, Swooping in for Wild Care includes an exhibit of new works by gallery and invited artists, demonstrations from 3:00 to 4:30, reception and book signings from 5:00 to 7:00.

Educational animals planning to attend include two Eastern Screech Owls, Up Up and Nickerson, and Turtle #45, an Eastern Box Turtle. More information about these four-legged and feathery friends can be found [here](#):

SaraJane Doberstein will be demonstrating the various techniques she brings together to create her backgrounds and foregrounds. Her preliminary oil sketch will be visible as she works directly over it. This will also show the editing and possible composition changes that occur during the painting process. These techniques will include combining glazing and layering with an alla prima approach using walnut alkyd medium. She will be working from photo references on a 16x20 inch linen paint board.

Join Amy Sanders to discover the secret to building depth and luminosity with pastel as she works toward bringing a painting to life through the building up of multiple layers. Pastel is a unique medium, in that the



By Amy Sanders

pigment particles retain their individuality within layers. If carefully layered using strokes in a variety of colors, weights and direction, light bounces among the particles creating a unique radiance that is the hallmark of the medium. Questions, comments and conversation of all things pastel are encouraged.

Volunteer Spotlight

by Kate Rollenhagen Diggs, CVT
Wildlife Rehabilitator and Volunteer Coordinator



Thank you, volunteers!
We ♥ you.

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

Heidi Brueckner is a member of our Squirrel Team, a group of volunteers who have been specially trained to care for orphaned infant squirrels at Wild Care. Because of the current stay-at-home advisory keeping volunteers away however, Heidi has been caring for a group of young gray squirrels around the clock for us at her home. She's going above and beyond to look after these little guys. "It's been fascinating watching their eyes open and witnessing their colors and characteristics develop day by day. It's been very grounding for me. I'm very humbled and very grateful," writes Heidi.

Heidi is a Cape native who owns a pet care business called **Nauset Pawsit**, and who also helps to clean up the beaches while beach-combing for her artwork. She has a cat Mojo and a dog Cooper, who both paddle board with Heidi.

All of us at Wild Care are very grateful for Heidi's help with squirrel care, and for being an excellent volunteer!

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 Wish List**, 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.

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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](#)

