



## Summer 2022

Dear Friend of Wild Care

We hope you are enjoying your summer. Our Clinic is bustling with baby animals, as expected for this time of year. What we did not anticipate was the unfortunate presence Avian Influenza. Despite the “Bird Flu”, we’ve had some incredible success stories this season. These stories are a great reminder of Wild Care’s perseverance, and dedication to the cause – giving wildlife a second chance.

### THE PRESENCE OF AVIAN FLU HAS BROUGHT MANY CHALLENGES THIS SEASON

It’s been a challenging season, to say the least! In February, Wild Care received the first two confirmed positive cases of Avian Influenza in wild birds in Massachusetts.

***“We are the eyes and ears on the ground for agencies like MassWildlife. Wildlife rehabilitation centers and rehabilitators are often the first to recognize emerging diseases in wildlife, such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.”***

The potential presence of Avian Influenza in birds that arrive at our door requires additional biosecurity measures to prevent transmission from bird to bird. This includes a designated avian quarantine space, sanitizing foot bath mats, and additional PPE. These measures are critically important to prevent the spread of Avian Influenza.

Birds are swabbed at Wild Care and swabs are tested for the presence of Avian Influenza at Tufts University. Additionally, Avian Influenza forced some rehabilitators in MA to limit the number of birds they could provide care for. In turn, Wild Care received an influx of birds from off-Cape, including Mallard Ducklings, songbirds, raptors, and young turkeys.

On top of an already hectic season and lack of space, our staff has been challenged with additional Avian Influenza protocols, an increased workload and more patients. *So how do they do it? It’s the success stories that keep us all going!*



A young Osprey is examined and tested for Avian Influenza.



Wild Care has received an influx of orphaned ducklings due to Avian Influenza.



Great Shearwater cared for at Wild Care.

*Despite these trying times, we have persevered due to the many success stories made possible by your support!*



Five young opossums fell from their mother's pouch when she was shaken by a dog. Mom ran off leaving the babies behind. After weeks in our care, they were released!



An orphaned Hooded Merganser duckling just days old, thrived under the watchful eye of Ilean, our resident foster duck!



A Black-backed Gull was rescued in Provincetown with a fishing hook through the tissue of its left eye. The bird has made a full recovery and will be released very soon!



Dozens of orphaned squirrels and songbirds received intensive care and TLC in our ICU.

Numerous orphaned Wild Turkey poults were placed with foster moms in the wild.



*I hope that you have enjoyed these success stories as much as we have. They have been made possible only because of your support!*

## DONATE TODAY

*There are many ways you can help...*

### Make a one-time donation

Help us through the remainder of the year. Your donation helps provide care to over 1,800 animals.

Use the QR Code below to make a donation online!

### Become a Monthly Sustainer

Support our wildlife patients into the future!  
<https://www.wildcarecapecod.org/donate-today/>

### Become a Planned Giver

Make Wild Care a beneficiary of your estate. Contact Executive Director Stephanie [sellis@wildcarecapecod.org](mailto:sellis@wildcarecapecod.org).

### Volunteer Your Time

[www.wildcarecapecod.org](http://www.wildcarecapecod.org). Click : "Volunteer"

**Virtual Wild Care** - Visit our Facebook page, @WildCareCapeCod, for a list of upcoming talks and events. Join us on Facebook Live, Fridays at 2:00 PM- for patient updates, virtual tours and more.

If you are already a Monthly Sustainer - we deeply appreciate your ongoing support.

*Thank you for donating now, and helping us to keep the "Care" in Wild Care!*

Stephanie Ellis  
Executive Director, Wild Care, Inc.



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