

Mission

The Wildlife Rehabilitation of Minnesota provides quality medical care and rehabilitation for all injured, sick and orphaned wild birds and animals and shares its knowledge with the people who care about them.

Values

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center:

- provides quality care to all wildlife that comes into our care and respects the life and health of all wildlife regardless of species,
- believes that the wildlife in our midst is an important part of the quality of life in our region and should be preserved and protected,
- opposes the mistreatment and abuse of all wild animals,
- believes in the continued advancement of the knowledge of wildlife medicine,
- acknowledges the wide range of activities of organizations and people working to preserve wildlife and enhance the natural environment.
- seeks to enhance the co-existence of people and wildlife

Vision

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center seeks to be the place for the best care of injured and orphaned wildlife, to be a national leader in wildlife medicine, and to promote the healthy cohabitation of people and wildlife.



WRC is...

- The WRC is a wild animal hospital offering emergency care and rehabilitative treatment for injured, sick, displaced and orphaned animals and birds.
- The WRC is one of the largest wildlife rehabilitation clinics of its kind in the country, treating more than 8,500 animals each year.
- The WRC started as a student group at the University of Minnesota and continues to offer educational opportunities to students from the University and other academic institutions, as well as 500 community volunteers annually.
- The WRC operates under licenses from the Minnesota



Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We are the primary resource for conservation officers, animal control workers and police department staffs who respond to wild animal calls.

- The WRC is an independent 501(c)3 not-for-profit funded entirely by people who care about the environment and wild animals.
- The WRC helps people to be good stewards of the wildlife that makes Minnesota such a special place.

Emergency Care

- The WRC is open every day of the year.
- Each year approximately 170 different species of wild animals and birds receive medical treatment and rehabilitative care. These include songbirds, waterfowl, mammals, amphibians and reptiles.
- Eighty percent are admitted for trauma after such things as domestic pet attacks, car accidents and poisoning.
- Nearly all of WRC's admits are brought to us by people who find them in their yards, while hiking in the woods or driving on the roads.
- Among the WRC's patients are many threatened, endangered or species of special concern, such as the Trumpeter Swan, American White Pelican, Horned Grebe and Blanding's Turtle.



Nurseries

- Three nurseries – for songbirds, mammals and waterfowl – are in operation throughout the spring and summer months and “raise” nearly 5,600 orphaned animals.
- Nurseries provide nearly round-the-clock care and feeding to ensure the survival of orphaned infants and juveniles.



Education

- Our Information Helpline responds to more than 15,000 calls each year and assists more than 5,000 people who bring animals to the clinic. In each case, intake specialists advise about how to best help the animal in question and transport it to the clinic with the least stress.
- www.wrcmn.org, the WRC’s Web site, provides instructions for helping injured and orphaned animals in emergency situations, humanely capturing birds and animals, and transporting them safely to the clinic. The site includes photos of the clinic and a map with driving instructions, and provides for making online donations.
- Workshops and programs provide training for wildlife rehabilitators and public officials responsible for animal calls. We also offer education programs to youth and adult groups in cooperation with the Harriet Alexander Nature Center.
- The WRC is uniquely positioned to provide hands-on professional education in the burgeoning field of wildlife medicine. We have a partnership agreement with the University of Minnesota’s College of Veterinary Medicine, and annually provide training to more than 60 interns from colleges and universities across the Midwest. Our intention is to grow this capacity and become an international center for graduate research and clinical practice in wildlife medicine.
- Wildlife wellness monitoring provides clues to problems that span species and ecosystems, such as the West Nile Virus and Avian Flu. The WRC was likely the first organization to treat crows infected with West Nile, and was also one of the first rehabilitation centers to successfully diagnosis and treat an American White Pelican infected with West Nile.

Staffing and Budget



- Paid staffing is seasonally adjusted according to the patient load, which fluctuates by breeding and migration seasons. Year-round staff includes Executive Director Phil Jenni, three veterinarians, three certified veterinary technicians, a communications director, a volunteer director, a rehabilitation specialist and a volunteer trainer. Spring through summer, when the clinic overflows with orphaned babies, we add several nursery coordinators.
- Last year, 500 volunteers donated over 35,500 hours of time, equivalent to 17 full-time employees.
- WRC’s annual budget is approximately \$650,000. Contributed services and the value of volunteer time more than double that figure.

Collaboration

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center has formed many collaborations to avoid duplication of services and improve outcomes for wild animals across the region:

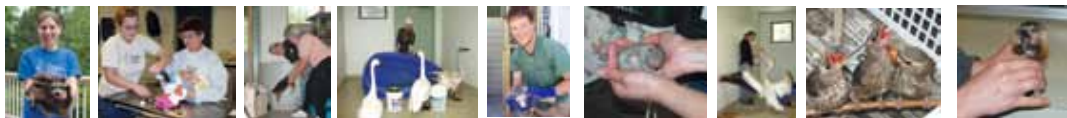
- We collaborate with individual home-care providers who assist wild animals on private property, offering assistance on specialized treatment and progressive rehabilitation
- Together with the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine and the Medical Institute of Minnesota, we provide training and volunteer opportunities for students in the field of animal care.
- WRC collaborates with the Harriet Alexander Nature Center to provide hands-on education for children about wildlife medicine and the importance of keeping wild animals, "wild."
- The Carpenter Nature Center provides space for many of our outdoor cages and rehabilitation areas. In turn, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center staff collaborates on rehabilitation, banding, and release plans with Carpenter staff.
- WRC veterinary staff provide professional training and consult on various topics across the nation.



The People

Broad organizational policy is set by a 13-person Board of Directors. WRC policies require that at least 20 percent of the Board should comprise people who represent the active volunteer base of the Center. The Board generally meets once each month. Attendance at meetings and participation in Center activities is excellent.

Caring for as many animals as we do requires a tremendous amount of time and energy. WRC has more than 500 people who volunteer more than 35,500 hours of time each year – the equivalent of nearly 17 additional full-time employees. Several of our volunteers have been recognized by their employers such as 3M, RBC-Dain Rauscher, the Star Tribune and ADC, for their volunteer efforts.



Rehab: Not just for animals

We've found that rehabilitation is much more than just providing emergency medical care to a wild animal. It's helping humans take care of the world in which they live; it's giving parents a way to teach children about being kind to animals. All in all, we're here to help people who find injured wildlife. We receive many notes back from people, here are just a few.

"You are the angels that walk amongst us. Maizie just read your email and was delighted to know her "Starlight" survived. But most importantly, it confirms that doing the right thing brought far more joy, then to keep a baby animal just because it's cute. Hopefully, she too, will follow in your footsteps. Thank you for your hard work and commitment. And thank you for taking a moment to teach a valuable lesson. One never knows how far that simple act will carry."

Marin & Maizie



"Thank you so much!!!! I can't tell you how happy we are to hear about this. Even the president of the company has asked me on a daily basis how the 'possum' is. We will be sending you a donation and would love to be included on any mailing lists. I am a personal member already."

Thank you so much for the work that you do and the care you give to the animals. You are angels."

Gigi Aveda Corporation

"Thank you for the update on the two baby fox. Thank you for the wonderful care they were given."

Mary





Emergency medical care for wildlife: the WRC.



2530 Dale Street
Roseville, MN 55113
651-486-9453
www.wrcmn.org
Open every day of the year.