

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, MO 63114



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Join this community wide effort at www.givestlday.org
Thursday, May 5 - early giving begins April 5

Help Birds!
***Become a member of the
WBR Volunteer Team.***
*Visit our website, select **Get
Involved and Volunteer** and
click on **Volunteer Application.***
We will contact you!

Save the Date!
**Trivia Night & Silent
Auction**
Friday October 21, 2022
*If you would like to help with
silent auction items or would like
information
about being an event sponsor –
contact wbrtrivia@gmail.com or
call (314) 426-6400*



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Spring 2022

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114
(314) 426-6400

*Please call before you bring
in a bird*

Hours of Operation
Daily
7 am – 7 pm

www.wildbirdrehab.org



**Wild Bird
Rehabilitation's mission
is to ensure survival of
native songbirds
through professional
medical care and
education regarding
their value and needs.**

What to do if you find a baby bird...

The sights and sounds of spring are always welcome –especially birdsong! Yes, it's baby bird season which means WBR will admit orphaned birds of all types and in various stages of development when the unfortunate happens and they are abandoned when their parents are victims of some type of disaster or the nest is destroyed.

Here are some guidelines on what to do if you find a bird that appears to need help. It may have fallen from the nest or the nest appears abandoned or disturbed. First, determine the bird's stage of development. The **hatchling** does not have feathers and its eyes are closed; the **nestling** is developing in the nest but cannot fly. Both are totally dependent on their parents for food. To determine if the parents are nearby, observe the situation discreetly for one hour. The parents will not approach if they see you nearby. Also, ensure the baby is safe from predators or pets.

If the parents are observed, return the bird to the nest or if that isn't possible, make a "substitute" nest and place it near the original nest. The "substitute" can be made from a plastic container and hung from a nearby branch close to the original nest. If there is no sign of parents, contact WBR.



Orphaned fledgling Blue Jays



Downy Woodpecker nestlings rescued when tree trimmina disrupted their nest.

Often you see birds hopping around on the ground in your yard. These are **fledglings** – ready to venture out of the nest - but they require parental guidance! The bird has feathers and is learning to fly. At this point they are very vulnerable to pets and predators – their flight skills are not developed enough to escape. Though the parents are usually nearby they are unlikely to be of any assistance in a crisis. To determine if the fledgling is being fed or has been abandoned, observe the fledgling from a distance for one hour. If there is no sign of parents, contact WBR.

Here are some general recommendations: keep the bird warm and safe from predators or pets, don't feed the bird. WBR's goal is to provide a situation which provides the best possible outcome for the baby bird. Mom nurtures the bird and teaches critical life skills and we want to maintain that bond, if possible. **Please call (ph: 314-426-6400) before you bring a bird or birds to WBR so we can work with you on the best approach to the situation. See Avian Flu Alert on p. 3.**

In Honor of...In Memory of

In Honor of Joan Fisher

Janet Schneider

In Honor of Betty White

Nancy Marasa

Kimberly Nolan

Lynda Shaw

Carol Lynn Laughlin

Kelsah Borstein

Kathy Kramer

Carrie Maddox

Jason Schmieder

In Honor of Kate Fisher's Birthday

Kristopher & Danel Pals

In Honor of William Mallow

Peggy Browne

In Honor of Stacey Schaeffer

Dana Plonka

In Honor of Helen Elizabeth Leonard

Susan Leonard

In Honor of Hope Heslop

Susan Evers

In Honor of Tom Tinsley

Jenny Petty

In Honor of Waxwing, the Bird

Michelle Wilson

In Memory of Kevin Carbol

Marsha Kilian

Sandra Brockes

Dan & Sherry Diekemper

In Memory of Opal Batson

Captain Kotar

In Memory of Chris Keay

Joanne Keay

In Memory of Jon Boulanger

Jay & Catherine Boulanger

In Memory of Joanne

Wangelin

Ruth Vlasak

In Memory of Jo Ann Brown Wolf

Paula & Leo Birchler

In Memory of San Hla

Kathy Dannegger

In Memory of David Faintich

Carol Faintich



Tufted Titmouse recovering from an injury resulting from a window strike.

In Memory of Ed & Ruth Pfaff

Steven Pfaff

In Memory of Sylvia Rosen

Ted Weinberg

In Memory of Nancy M Thomas

John Thomas

In Memory of Bella, Schnauzer

Patricia Drone

In Memory of Tweetie Bird

Mark E.

In Memory of Mildred the Pug

Tim Gentry

In Memory of Goosey the Robin

Lisa Mueller

In Memory of Toby

Brenda Kalemis

Calendar of Events

Go Birding Day April 30. Head outdoors to enjoy songbirds as they prepare to start a family! Visit <http://greatmissouribirdingtrail.com/Wordpress/birding-trails/> to find a location near you or just head to a nearby park!

Give STL Day, Thursday, May 5, midnight-to-midnight, online at www.givestlday.org. Early giving begins April 5. Join the St. Louis community for the biggest online giving event in St. Louis and support WBR at this critical time of the year.

Spring Wildflower Market, May 7, 9 am – 1 pm. Shaw Nature Reserve. Shop from a wide selection of Missouri Native plants, trees and shrubs grown by local nurseries!

International Migratory Bird Day, May 14. This year's theme is the effect of light pollution on migrating birds. For more information see p. 3.

Trivia Night & Silent Auction, Friday, October 21, Kirkwood Community Center. Save the date for this event which is WBR's major fundraiser of the year. You can help! Silent auction items and sponsorships are critical to the event's success! Contact wbrtrivia@gmail.com or call 314-426-6400.

Baby bird season is here and you can help by using the enclosed envelope to send your tax-deductible donation or visit our website www.wildbirdrehab.org to donate or set up a recurring donation. Many area employers will match your donation!

WBR receives no federal or state funding and is supported by your donations.

Avian Flu Alert

Some poultry and wild birds found in several Missouri counties, including St. Louis and St. Charles, have tested positive for H5N1, a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). This does not pose a serious risk to humans. It does, however, pose a fatal risk to many bird species. Due to HPAI's extremely contagious nature, high morbidity, and high mortality, WBR will be temporarily unable to admit patients exhibiting any HPAI symptoms as well as certain susceptible species. **This is a continually developing situation. Please call (ph: 314-426-6400) before you bring a bird to WBR so we can work with you on the best approach to the situation.**

To avoid the spread of bird communal infections, keep feeders and birdbaths clean! See <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/how-to-clean-your-bird-feeder/> for more information. This spring and summer WBR will care for thousands of baby birds who have been orphaned and additional resources will be required to provide added safety measures in the center. Please consider donating using the enclosed envelope or on our website. Thank you for your support!

Summer Intern Positions

Position responsibilities include:

- the rehabilitation of ill and injured birds
- caring for orphaned songbirds
- creating environmental education programs and displays
- conducting research projects to benefit rare and endangered birds

Commitment is 30 hours per week for 12 weeks from May-August. Minimum age of 18.

Send resume to:

Denise White, 9624 Midland, St Louis, MO 63114
or email wbr.schedulehelp@gmail.com

No transportation or housing provided.

Volunteer Corner

Consider joining the WBR Volunteer Team! There are many ways you can help WBR during the spring and summer months. Volunteers handle the care and feeding of birds but there are many jobs such as setting up cages, admitting patients and maintaining patient records which are critical. Work from home as a member of the *Phone Team* that responds to calls regarding "what to do" when a bird is rescued. This team enables the staff and volunteers located at WBR to devote 100% of their time to bird care. WBR fields over 1500 calls per month during the spring/summer months. Often the bird rescuer can be guided to take action which saves the bird's life and/or avoids hospitalization.

Training is provided and experienced staff and other volunteers are available to answer your questions. It's a great community of bird lovers and you will learn about birds and their fascinating personalities. You can sign up on our website at <https://wildbirdrehab.org/get-involved> and WBR will contact you to schedule an orientation.

Turn out the lights!

Currently, birds are migrating to our area and points further north. St. Louis sits within the Mississippi Flyway, which is used by 60% of the songbirds in North America. One of the best ways to help birds during migration is to simply turn off your lights at night! Many birds migrate at night to take advantage of cooler temperatures and evade predators. But, lights from buildings and homes can cause birds to become disoriented, leading to the deaths of hundreds of millions of birds from collisions into buildings and windows.

In April of 2021 a resolution was adopted by St. Louis County which supports the efforts of the St. Louis Audubon Society and *BirdSafeSTL* to help increase awareness of the dangers birds face as they pass through the area. The small act, of flipping a switch, can save thousands of birds. Even the Gateway Arch participates by going dark during peak migration. We encourage you to learn more about the ways you can help birds at <https://stlouisaudubon.org/birdsafestl/>. To see a map showing bird migration in real time visit <https://birdcast.info/migration-tools/live-migration-maps/>.

WBR Welcomes New Executive Director

Diane Doster, WBR Board President, announced that effective June 1, Lori Moore-McMullen will assume the position of Executive Director. Lori has been serving the not-for-profit sector in development for 35 years, most recently as Chief Development Officer for The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. She has been volunteering at WBR for the past year and chairs the WBR finance committee.

Lori's experience includes work with health, social service and humane organizations including Edgewood Children's Center, Harris House Foundation, and The Humane Society of Missouri. We're excited to have Lori's expertise on our WBR Team! As the only rehabilitation center in Missouri that is dedicated exclusively to songbirds, we look forward to expanding WBR's profile throughout the St Louis Community and Missouri.