



Wildlife Veterinary Care

Belinda Burwell, D.V.M.



Animals Currently Under Care

Animals currently receiving care include screech, barred and great horned owls, red-tailed hawks and a kestrel, big brown bats, red foxes and mink, box, painted and wood turtles, a robin, bluejay, mourning dove and cardinal.



Injured barred owllet

Donations

Thank you to everyone who has donated to WVC!

Six months since its inception, Wildlife Veterinary Care is in full swing, currently answering 70-100 calls a week, helping with wildlife emergencies, and giving life-saving advice about wildlife issues. Hundreds of situations where wildlife needed to be rescued have been dealt with, and hundreds of animals have been treated. In many situations, the advice given prevented injury, and/or eliminated the need for the animals to be rescued. When necessary, animals have been rescued, treated, and released back to the wild.

I am fortunate to still be working with many of the same fine environmental and wildlife organizations and veterinarians I worked with while at the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center until I was forced out last year. I taught the Mammalogy class to the recent Virginia Master Naturalist trainees. I've been taking biopsies from wild snakes with skin lesions suspicious for the new emerging snake fungal disease, and discovered the first case of this disease in this area on March 14. For more information see:

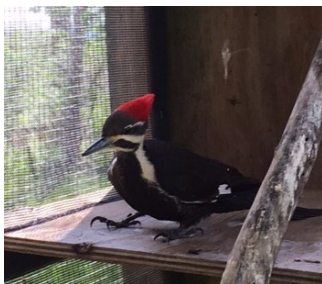
Recent donations and purchases include:
 LeadCare II blood lead testing machine
 Baby Warm Brinsea Incubator
 Outdoor caging for foxes
 Raptor Flight Cage
 Four Port-a-cribs were donated to house injured eagles and great blue herons.
 Vari-kennels for housing injured birds and mammals
 Thank you Aaron Westlake for making small and large screen covered plastic tubs to house injured turtles and baby mammals (these are all full already!).

We have also received many donations of food, aquariums, bowls, office supplies, sheets and towels, and other needed items.

All these donations have saved us thousands of dollars!
 Thank you!



Raccoon with polyarthritis



Pileated woodpecker recovering from being struck by a car.

http://www.northeastparc.org/products/pdfs/NEPARC_SnakeFungalDiseaseFAQ.pdf



Rat snake with snake fungal disease

Research is continuing into raccoon polyarthritis, and in April, I diagnosed a case caused by a new mycoplasma species. This mycoplasma species has also been found in a human patient. We're looking for new cases to help us understand more about how raccoons are picking up this infection.

Two new cases of hydranencephaly in red fox kits were seen this spring. Hydrocephalus and hydranencephaly have been found in red fox kits in this area for many years, but the cause has remained unknown. Both of these young kits were missing most of their brain, similar to the brain lesions seen in human babies affected by the Zika virus. More testing is being done on these fox kits to look for a potentially causative organism.



Nestling great horned owl
recovering from head trauma

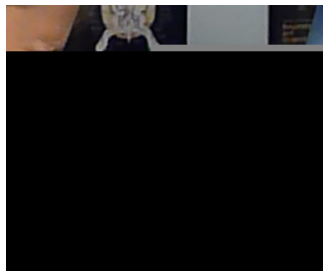


Wood turtle with eye
infection

Donations can be made at
this link::

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or through the website
WildlifeVetCare.com



Some lead poisoning cases were treated this winter, and though not all of them could be saved, I am still collecting data on lead toxicity in eagles and other birds of prey.

Over the winter, I identified an outbreak of Canine Distemper in raccoons and skunks feeding at a feral cat feeding station, but fortunately, this outbreak was self-limiting and did not spread. Canine distemper can affect dogs, coyotes, raccoons, skunks, foxes, mink and otters, but it does not affect domestic cats.

Because Wildlife Veterinary Care is 100% Volunteer, there are no salaries to pay. Your donations are spent on supplies to care for the animals. Wildlife Veterinary Care is a 501(c)3 charity, and all donations are 100% tax-deductible.

Donations can be mailed to: Wildlife Veterinary Care, P.O.Box 288, Millwood, VA 22646, and can also be made online on our [webpage](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Donate



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Our mailing address is:

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