



Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Saskatchewan

Help us in keeping Saskatchewan's wildlife wild!

Who We Are

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Saskatchewan (WRSOS) is a volunteer driven, registered non-profit organization in Saskatchewan. The organization was founded in 2006 and has been dedicated to protecting Saskatchewan wildlife. WRSOS aims to promote education, respect, understanding, and appreciation of wildlife and the environment so that humans and wildlife can successfully coexist.

The WRSOS has an exceptional team of volunteers with a broad range of qualifications and experiences. The volunteer Board of Directors consists of 10 individuals with a variety of expertise, who focus on governance and oversees the organization's activities. We have a Management Committee of 11 individuals who focus on the planning and execution of our programs and objectives. In addition, we have 187 volunteers, 21 volunteer veterinary clinics and 11 wildlife rehabilitators across the province.

Our Mission

WRSOS is a registered non-profit organization that is dedicated to fostering rehabilitation and return to the wild through a network of collaborative relationships and to promoting the understanding and respect for wildlife issues.

Our Purpose

- To conserve and protect wildlife and their habitat.
- To prevent the unnecessary removal of wildlife from their natural habitat.
- To prevent accidental injury or illness to callers or wildlife.
- To provide information and education to the public about wildlife issues.
- To provide rescue and transportation for the wildlife that needs help.
- To ensure the return to the wild of medically assisted and rehabilitated wildlife.

What We Do

The WRSOS' most valuable service is the emergency hotline, which operates 12 hours per day, 365 days per year. Our volunteers and summer student employees are trained to advise callers on how to handle a range of situations and to help prevent or solve human-wildlife conflict. Through the hotline, we not only improve wildlife protection but also will raise wildlife conservation awareness in Saskatchewan.

Demand for WRSOS' services are growing rapidly due to an increase in urbanization and encroachment onto wildlife habitat, greater awareness of our organization,

and referrals to our services by local, provincial and federal governments. In the 11 years since WRSOS was founded, we have experienced a dramatic increase in calls – from 177 in 2006 to nearly 3,000 in 2017 – highlighting the need for an organization like the WRSOS in Saskatchewan.



Our Goals

- Ensure success of the ever-growing wildlife emergency hotline.
- Advancement of wildlife awareness and conservation in Saskatchewan through community events, social media and the hotline.
- Higher quality public education through the hotline, newsletters, social media and our website.
- Increased tolerance for wildlife and more animals left unaffected in their natural habitat.
- Increase in memberships, volunteer participation, event sponsorship and outreach programs.
- Sustainable funding sources for the continued services of the WRSOS.
- Improved ability to assist government and non-government organizations regarding emergency wildlife responses.

Our Statistics

In 2017 we observed the following outcomes through the hotline calls:

- 33% of the callers were educated to leave wild animal alone in its natural habitat
- 19% required assistance by a local rehabilitator
- 18% required attention from a target veterinarian
- 15% were dealt with by other organizations (animal control, conservation officers, etc.)
- 5% were requests for information
- 5% had the unfortunate event of animal death before WRSOS volunteers could help
- 3% were non-responsive due to failed contact with caller

The majority of wildlife that required specialized care were injured as a result of anthropogenic conflict such vehicle collisions, electrocution, human interference, and environmental hazards. It is our responsibility as wildlife stewards to ensure that the public understand how our actions affect wildlife and their habitat. Our volunteers help resolve these issues through education (hotline, newsletter, social media, website, and public events), rescue (trained transport volunteers) and through our network of veterinarians and rehabilitators.

Our Responsibility

Our responsibility is to ensure target veterinarians and wildlife rehabilitators receive ill or injured wildlife immediately, to mitigate the spread of disease into the ecosystem and to alleviate animal suffering. If necessary, proper authorities are contacted immediately to control the risk of potentially zoonotic disease spreading into our communities. Without our professional collaborations and dedicated volunteers, we would not be able to continue to educate the public on nature conservation and protect both the people and wildlife in our communities.