

Appalachian Wild - Establishing Roots



Appalachian Wild needs your help to open a facility to care for injured and orphaned wildlife as soon as possible.

Each year wildlife rehabilitators, veterinarian offices, wildlife centers, zoos and similar places experience significant increases in the number of injured and orphaned wildlife. As the human population in Western North Carolina (WNC) grows and more people desire to live closer to wildlife and natural areas, encounters with wildlife result in more injured and orphaned wild animals.

In 2015, the number of injured and orphaned wildlife in WNC, as reported by rehabilitators working with Appalachian Wild, was 1,488 animals. All rehabilitators in the area were overwhelmed and at capacity. The community is struggling to care for the ever growing number of animals in crisis each year. **A facility is urgently needed!**

Appalachian Wild was formed in response to the increasing numbers of wildlife in need of assistance and the lack of trained people and resources to help them in WNC. The first steps have been made to establish the organization and over \$27,000 has been raised! Appalachian Wild is ready to begin work as soon as a location is found.

Wildlife rehabilitation is providing expert care to injured and orphaned wild animals with the goal to return them to their natural habitats. Patients receive specialized treatment and are only held in captivity until able to live in the wild. Wildlife rehabilitation is an elaborate, specialized and time-consuming process.

Office and triage space is needed to establish a satellite “hub” location where Appalachian Wild will build and manage a network of volunteers for transport and coordinate triage efforts. The Facility Committee also continues their search and assessment of locations with 10+ acres of land in or on the border of Buncombe County to establish the full service wildlife rehabilitation facility.

Your help is needed to save and serve our native wildlife!



Appalachian Wild will:

Rescue with a core of trained volunteers

Rehabilitate with expert care and treatment

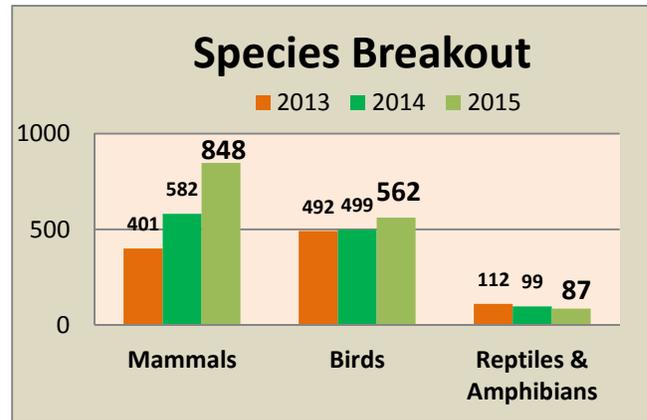
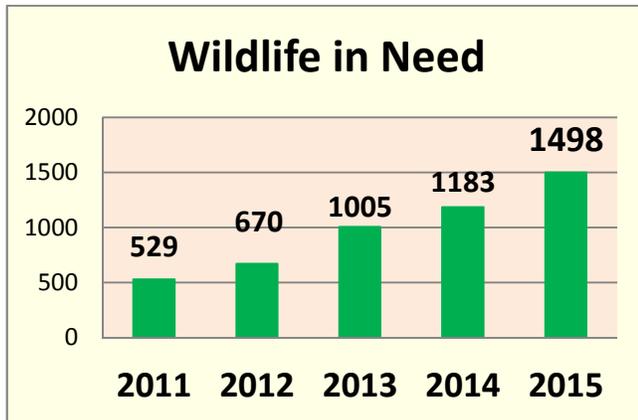
Release animals back into the wild

Relate and engage through education

In a New York Times article Helen Macdonald, a teacher at the University of Cambridge, described feelings about rescue animals as “an intoxicating process of coming to know something quite unlike you, to understand it well enough not only to keep it alive but also to put it back, like a puzzle piece, into the gap in the world it left behind.”

Western North Carolina Urgently Needs a Facility to Care for Wildlife

The following statistics are from records collected on injured and orphaned wildlife in WNC, but do not reflect the total number of animals taken to veterinarians, local home based rehabilitators or other agencies. The actual numbers are estimated to be over 2,000 annually and rising.



Local veterinarian facilities and other organizations that are not set up for wildlife rehabilitation are overwhelmed. These places do not have staff, space or funding to care for injured and orphaned wildlife for any length of time. With a constant, steady flow of wildlife in need of help arriving, they can only triage and provide stabilization care before passing the animals on to overburdened home-based wildlife rehabilitators. Appalachian Wild is stepping up to fulfill this vital role in our community.



The state of North Carolina has several specialized rehabilitation facilities across the middle and eastern parts of the state. Appalachian Wild will work in conjunction with these facilities to fill the missing niche in the mountains. By providing temporary captive care, these animals, who might otherwise succumb to their injuries, will have a second chance at survival in the wild.

Examples of injured and orphaned wildlife:

- Eastern Box Turtle hit by a lawnmower
- Red-Tailed Hawk hit by a speeding car
- Orphaned River Otter lost without its family
- Carolina Wrens stuck in sticky traps
- Mallard Duckling swallowed fishing hook and line
- Juvenile Gray Squirrel thrown from nest in storm



Vision and Plan

Appalachian Wild has a strong core of experienced, knowledgeable and dedicated volunteers serving on the Board of Directors and Advisory Council. A vision and four-phased plan to help wildlife and build the facility has been created. With a Business Plan, Strategic Roadmap, Development and Marketing Plan, the group has a clear path laid out for success.

❖ **Phase I - First Steps:** *Completed December 31, 2014*

- ☑ Mission defined, Board of Directors and Advisory Council established
- ☑ Organization incorporated and Bylaws approved
- ☑ Business Plan and Strategic Roadmap created and implemented
- ☑ Development and Marketing Plan created, implemented and brand established
- ☑ Exceeded fundraising goal to cover tax exemption filing and start-up cost for the nonprofit.

❖ **Phase II - Establishing Roots:** *January 2015 – Spring 2016*

- ☑ Obtained 501c3 status
- ☑ Outreach through marketing, events and fundraising
- ☑ Website, Facebook, Enews created and volunteers recruited
- ☑ Raised over \$27,000
- Build transport network of volunteers
- Find location and set up office, transport network and triage site

❖ **Phase III - Open The Hub* Doors:** *Spring 2016*

- Train volunteer core for Transport Network & Wildlife Hotline
- Open centrally located Hub satellite office for triage and transport
- Continue strengthening wildlife rehab network
- Define capital campaign needs for land and permanent facility
- Continue fundraising efforts including grants and special events

❖ **Phase IV: Appalachian Wild Rehab Center:** *2017*

- Identify and secure 10+ acres in or around Buncombe County
- Build full service rehab facility (or renovate if existing structure)
- Begin full operations and rehabilitation work in treatment facility
- Define and initiate research work
- Launch education programming



***THE HUB:** Office and triage space is needed to begin work in a satellite “hub” location. As a triage site, animals will be stabilized and only held for 24-48 hours before transport to local rehabilitators or specialized facilities. This site will provide much needed office space to increase capacity with volunteers. There will be daily shifts for volunteers assisting with administrative needs, coordination of the transport network and triage. Licensed wildlife rehabilitators will train volunteers and assist with stabilization needs. The triage and stabilization space does not have to be very large, but would ideally have two or more rooms along with 24/7 access.

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Community Outcomes

Through the creation of the “Hub” and wildlife rehab facility, Appalachian Wild can provide thousands of animals with modern care and treatment serving as a vital resource for protecting the amazing wildlife that surrounds us...for decades to come. The impact of Appalachian Wild’s work will be far reaching:

- More orphaned and injured wild animals will be rehabilitated and returned to the wild.
- Data collected will inform research into wildlife health and resiliency in suburban and urban environments and help improve future practices and policies.
- Western North Carolina’s reputation as a green place to live and work will increase, attracting more conservation-minded individuals and businesses to our state.
- All of Western North Carolina will have access to the hotline and services.

“Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty.”
Albert Einstein

Help open a facility to care for injured and orphaned wildlife



It’s your generosity and caring that makes the mission and work to save wildlife possible.

- Donate**: Send a check* or donate securely online
- Facebook**: Like and invite others
- ENews**: Sign up on the website
- Volunteer**: Email us or sign-up online
- Share it Forward**: Spread the word!

*P.O. Box 1211, Skyland, NC 28776

Please provide support and input to help shape the vision and plans. Contact one of the founders to share your feedback, answer your questions and for more information:

Kimberly Brewster, President
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Savannah Trantham, Vice President
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Thank you for your interest and support!

Appalachian Wildlife Refuge is a 501c3 nonprofit that coordinates the needs of wildlife rehabilitation in Western North Carolina providing care for injured and orphaned wildlife, support for the wildlife rehabilitation network and conservation education to the community. Appalachian Wild is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Federal Tax Id #47-2214085. Donations are tax deductible.

www.AppalachianWild.org