

Welcome to

INSTINCTS

Jan 2013

Vol 3:1

"The newsletter helping you follow your Wild Instincts."



Welcome 2013!!

It's January again already. That means it must be time to reflect on the year leaving and look to what lies ahead.

What a year 2012 turned out to be! We worked feverishly to get the building finished enough to function from by the beginning of May. It was close, but we did it. The porta-potty left the parking lot and all operations moved inside. Spring interns did as much construction as animal care. As the days progressed, we became more of the rehab facility we envisioned. Enclosures were constructed thanks to many donors and hard-working volunteers and interns. Even with all this construction we treated 564 patients of 98 different species from 28 different counties with an overall success rate of 74.87%. Our rescue/transport drivers drove over 6725 miles to help injured or orphaned wildlife. Volunteers logged in approximately 600 hours helping construct, feed, clean and do whatever needed to be done. Here's to 2013 being as wonderful!

Upcoming Fundraiser

On Saturday, January 19th, Sackett's Bar in downtown Rhinelander is having a meat raffle with the proceeds to benefit Wild Instincts. There will be live music by Mark Wayne. Activities start at 7:30 p.m. Mark your calendars. We hope to see you there!



Setting up the silent auction.

Beat a Bear to Feed a Bear HUGE SUCCESS!

It was PACKED in [Cross Country Bar & Grill](#) in Rhinelander on December 16th for the Green Bay Packers vs. Chicago Bears game. Owners Lisa & Eric generously decided to host a fundraiser for Wild Instincts at their beautiful establishment.



Standing room only during the Beat a Bear to Feed a Bear Event at Cross Country Bar & Grill.

It was an afternoon packed full of football fun, raffles, auctions, games, good food and great friends! Over 40 large platters of cookies were sold in the bake sale, most of the sales before the event even started! When it was all over it was a win-win. The Packers beat the Bears and over \$4000 was raised. Woo HOO! ☺



Some of the many items to be raffled.

To keep things in perspective, though, remember it costs about \$3000 to raise a bear to release. We can't sit on our laurels just yet. There's always more work to do.

Follow us on  for up-to-date photos and stories.

We're TWO!!

On Jan 25th, 2011, Wild Instincts was incorporated. On Jan 28th, 2011, 17 acres was purchased to house the new wildlife rehabilitation center. We've been working ever since thanks to great people like you! You deserve a pat on the back (or two!).



In Their Own Words

Mark Naniot
Director of Rehabilitation

When we decided to start Wild Instincts two years ago there were a lot of things we knew. We knew it would be difficult. We knew we would be working 10-16 hour days, 7 days a week. We knew every day would be a financial struggle. We knew for the most part, it would be Us against The Odds. We knew the animals would come, along with the demands for caging, food, and medical supplies. We knew every day would bring a new challenge. We also knew that we have the passion, desire and experience to give hundreds of wild animals each year a second chance. All this we knew going in and we were still determined to give it our all, even if we were in this alone and by ourselves.

What we didn't know was the unbelievable amount of support that would come from so many. Every time a crisis would come up, some wonderful person or organization would magically appear with the solution-whether it was supplies, manual labor or donations of money. When we needed it most, somehow someone would make it possible. We have been so humbled by the outpouring of support from so many that we can't even begin to tell you. We have met many wonderful people that share our passion for wildlife. We thank you all so much for your support and will continue to build enclosures, rescue wildlife, educate the public and give the utmost quality of care to the wildlife of the Northwoods.

We didn't know if we could make it or if we could find enough support but we knew we had to try.

Now, thanks to all of you wonderful people, there is one more thing we know: we are not in this alone.

Thanks to all of you for your support to help us help them.

Winter time Activities

In wildlife rehab in the Northwoods, there are two main seasons: Baby Season and Getting Ready for Baby Season. This winter we find ourselves with a larger than normal patient load and over-wintering more animals than normal. This means we have a little less time to be spending on winter construction, further organizing, researching/writing grants, and taking time for ourselves to regroup before the spring onslaught but we're making the most of it. We have already received some quality intern applications and will be starting interviews for spring internships in the next couple weeks. Want to see one of the patients we're overwintering enjoy breakfast? Click [HERE](#).

Some Recent Releases

This Great Horned Owl was hit by a car on October 13, 2012 unbeknownst to the driver. When she arrived at work someone saw this owl hanging upside down from her grill! Wild Instincts was called and Mark went and extracted the bird from the grill. She had injuries down to the bone on her wrists from dragging on the pavement during her "car ride".



The recovered Great Horned Owl in the pre-release enclosure.

She recovered fully and on November 30, 2012, in the presence of the driver of the vehicle and family, she was released!



Great Horned Owl seconds before freedom. No more car rides for her!

Click [HERE](#) for the video of a recent bald eagle release.

In Honor of/In Memory of

Donations have been received
~ In memory of Mary Garton
~ In honor of Joel & Kathy Furda
~ In memory of Elmer Curby
~ In honor of Marsha Jones' sister & brother-in-law
~ In honor of Kathleen Hilgers

In the News

Did you miss the December TV Channel 7 story on Wild Instincts? To watch it click [HERE](#).

WISH LIST

For a complete wish list, please visit our website's wish list by clicking [HERE](#).

- Garden Tractor with snow blower*
- Chain link fencing
- 1 1/2" steel pipe *
- Fence poles*
- Good Used Pick-up Truck*
- Whole fish
- Frozen venison*
- Dry dog food
- Canned dog food
- Paper towels*
- Dish soap
- Hand soap
- Sheets/blankets/towels
- Unsalted Walnuts
- Unsalted Pecans
- Cash Donations
- Gas Cards
- Treated 2x4 and 2x6
- Stepladders (6', 8', 10', 12', 16')

*there is a pressing need for these items!



Sheds from the Eastern Fox Snake being overwintered. Look how much it grew in a month!

Another Way to Donate

Wild Instincts is able to receive donations of high-yield stocks for liquidation for funding projects and operations.

This is how the 2012 Internship Program was funded.

If you would like the tax benefit of donating stock instead of donating cash, please contact us at 715-362-9453 (WILD) or sharon@wildinstinctsrehab.com .

Species	1/1/12- 12/31/12
American Crow	3
American Goldfinch	13
American Robin	37
American Toad	1
American Woodcock	3
Bald Eagle	16
Baltimore Oriole	2
Barred Owl	4
Beaver	1
Belted Kingfisher	3
Big Brown Bat	3
Black Bear	16
Black-billed Cuckoo	1
Black-capped Chickadee	8
Blue Jay	7
Blue-winged Teal	1
Bobcat	4
Bohemian Waxwing	1
Broad-winged Hawk	2
Brown Thrasher	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	1
Canada Goose	13
Cedar Waxwing	5
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1
Chipping Sparrow	4
Cliff Swallow	1
Common Grackle	6
Common Loon	10
Common Merganser	2
Common Nighthawk	1
Common Raven	3
Common Redpoll	2
Deer Mouse	9
Downy Woodpecker	1
Eastern Bluebird	1
Eastern Chipmunk	1
Eastern Cottontail	64
Eastern Fox Snake	1
Eastern Garter Snake	1
Eastern Gray Squirrel	51

Eastern Painted Turtle	2	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	6
Eastern Phoebe	7	Ruffed Grouse	4
European Starling	3	Sandhill Crane	4
Flying Squirrel (northern/southern combined)	1	Snapping Turtle	3
Gray Fox	4	Song Sparrow	5
Great Blue Heron	3	Swainson's Thrush	1
Great Horned Owl	4	Trumpeter Swan	2
Green-backed Heron	1	Veery	1
Hairy Woodpecker	6	Virginia Opossum	3
Hooded Merganser	3	Western Painted Turtle	3
Horned Grebe	1	White-crowned Sparrow	1
House Sparrow	7	White-tailed Deer	29
House Wren	2	White-throated Sparrow	3
Killdeer	1	White-winged Crossbill	1
Little Brown Bat	4	Wild Turkey	1
Mallard Duck	11	Wood Turtle	2
Merlin	1	Woodchuck	5
Mink	1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6
Mourning Dove	13	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
Northern Flicker	10	Total	564
Northern Saw-Whet Owl	2		
Northern Water Snake	1		
Ovenbird	3		
Pileated Woodpecker	3		
Pine Grosbeak	7		
Pine Siskin	2		
Porcupine	7		
Purple Finch	4		
Raccoon	32		
Red Crossbill	2		
Red Fox	1		
Red Squirrel	4		
Red-eyed Vireo	4		
Red-headed Woodpecker	1		
Red-tailed Hawk	8		
Ring-billed Gull	2		
Rock Dove	7		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2		
Rough-legged Hawk	1		



The little bobcat isn't so little any more!

**Thank You for Helping
Us Help Them!**