

Welcome to

INSTINCTS

Jan 2012

Vol 2:1

"The newsletter helping you follow your Wild Instincts."



Happy FIRST BIRTHDAY to Wild Instincts!

On Jan 25th, 2011, Wild Instincts was incorporated. On Jan 28th, 2011, 17 acres was purchased to house the new wildlife rehabilitation center.

This is a special expanded celebratory edition. Enjoy!

A Look Back and Ahead

By Mark Naniot, Director of Rehabilitation

A look back and a look ahead—that's what came to mind yesterday when two different volunteers stopped at Wild Instincts (WII). One stopped to drop off donations. She had not been at WII for several months. She expressed genuine surprise at how much in we had accomplished in such a very short time.

The other volunteer came to help. He commented on how much was left to do. They're both right. We've done a lot but there is a lot yet to do.

A Look Back:

As I write this, the calendar reads January 19th, 2012. At this time last year we were

looking for property and rehabbing out of our workshop at home.

We purchased property on Jan 28th, 2011 and the work began in earnest. The property had a small un-insulated garage, no heat and no water. We quickly insulated, added a second room and starting setting up for the fast approaching Baby Season.

We cleared trees for the newly planned building, septic and the generously donated 16'x80' mobile home that will provide housing for interns and volunteers.

Weight limits were slow coming off the roads, but when they did everything happened at once! Fill was brought in, the septic installed, the shell of a 45'x64' building was erected, and the mobile home moved onto site.

Of course, there were also the animals to care for as well!

We started early each morning and ended late each day. We hauled water in jugs and had a rented porta-potty in the parking lot for when we had to answer nature's other call. A big milestone was when the well was put in and we had running water!

Each new step made life a little easier.

We completed a deer yard, coyote enclosure, bear enclosure, otter enclosure and songbird enclosure to name a few.

It was a lot of hard work.

It was only possible because of the tremendous support we received from volunteers, donors and the community.

Every time we were not sure how we were going to be able to build, feed or house something, someone would appear as if by magic to help with our needs.

We can't begin to tell you all how much it means to have your support to help the wild ones we all care so much about.

A Look Ahead:

We've come far, but much is still left to do. Most of the new building still needs painting. Cabinets and sinks are in storage waiting to be installed. Raptor enclosures will be built in the spring as well as aquatic enclosures. Our bear enclosure is ready to be expanded from 30'x45' to 125'x40' and a pond needs to be added.

The list goes on...and will for years. We look forward to being able to hire six interns this spring, summer and fall thanks to a generous donation that will fund our internship program this year. We look forward to sharing the wonder of wildlife with them and giving them a chance to get some much needed experience.

That's our little look back and a little glimpse ahead. It's been a lot of work but we are honored to be able to do it. Our passion for wildlife has always been there and always will be.

Looking back-giving wildlife a second chance is what we've always done. Looking ahead-it's what we always want to do.

Thank you again to all of YOU who help us help them.

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We treated 315 patients from 74 different species. Our success rate was over 66%, still above the national average of 50%, but below the 70% or higher we normally achieve. Given this year of transition and turmoil, even though not quite our normal standards, it's still note-worthy. We've been able to return two-thirds of our wild friends to the wild! Thanks to people like you.

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We have grown to 98 members and 186 Likes on Facebook.

First Babies of 2012

On January 11, the first babies of 2012 were admitted: two five-day-old black bear cubs. They were orphaned after mom was disturbed by logging operations.

They are doing well and growing like weeds.

They'll be raised here at Wild Instincts for a few weeks until wild surrogate moms can be found. Then they'll be placed in dens with wild moms.

If appropriate wild moms can't be found, we will raise them here at Wild Instincts until fall when they'll be released.

Make sure to check our blog or Facebook page often for updates with videos and photos on these boys.

www.wildinstincts.wordpress.com



Photo by Ken Pedersen



Photo by Ken Pedersen

Raptor Rescue & Transport Drivers Needed

Drivers are an integral part of animal care here at Wild Instincts. They play a huge and important role in getting animals to help. They also allow patients already in care to receive proper care by allowing us to stay on site to provide care every 30 minutes instead of having to drive after a new patient.

We couldn't operate without them.

Our driver's are located all over the Northwoods with good reason- our patients are located all over the Northwoods!

Do you have a vehicle & a valid driver's license?

The Wild Instincts Animal Ambulance Team needs YOU!

Transport Drivers go out on calls where the animal is already contained in a box or such. They bring the box to Wild Instincts.

Raptor Rescue Drivers have extra training on how to handle and rescue birds and raptors. They may be asked to catch the animal in need of care.

When Wild Instincts gets a call on an injured animal, we call one of our drivers on our list from an area they have chosen to drive in. If they are not available for whatever reason, we'll call the next person on the list and so on until we find a driver willing to help.

Having a list of lots of drivers from lots of different areas allows us not to use the same people all the time. It also keeps the driver's driving radius to a manageable size.

Please consider volunteering as driver. Required training sessions are provided free of charge.

Animal Transport training is about 30 minutes. Raptor Rescue training is the same Animal Transport training and an ADDITIONAL 30 minutes.

ATTEND AN INFO/TRAINING SESSION:

Saturday, March 10th
10:00-10:30 a.m. Animal Transport
10:00-11:00a.m. Raptor Rescue

or

Tuesday, March 13th
6:30-7:00 p.m. Animal Transport
6:30-7:30 p.m. Raptor Rescue

NOTE: even if you are CURRENTLY a driver, you must attend one of the sessions for a refresher, update on policy changes and to pick up your 2012 driver's credentials.

In Honor of/In Memory of

Donations have been received "to honor the passions and work of Trish Kirk and Tim Muench."

THE ONE & ONLY

Just a reminder Wild Instincts is THE ONLY wildlife rehab center in Northern Wisconsin permitted to treat ALL native WI wildlife, including threatened and endangered species.

From mice to black bears, hummingbirds to eagles, we treat them all!

This means we need a wide variety of diets, enclosures and equipment. See our Wish List for some ideas!

WISH LIST

For a complete wish list, please visit our website: www.wildinstinctsrehab.com

Chain link fencing
1 1/2" steel pipe *
Fence poles*
Good Used Pick-up Truck
Walk-in Freezer*
Whole fish
Frozen venison
Dry dog food
Canned dog food
Paper towels
Dish soap
Hand soap
Newspapers
Sheets/blankets/towels
Unsalted Walnuts
Unsalted Pecans
Cash Donations
Gas Cards

*there is a pressing need for these items!



Coyote pups almost ready for release



Eastern gray squirrel baby takes a nap



Mark & a young fledgling bald eagle



Doorways to raptor room, pond room and mammal room viewed from the kitchen



Garage with building site right and behind



Volunteer group from community helps with construction



Building shell completed



Viewing window into the nursery is installed



Eastern Gray Squirrel being fed



How one person feeds 6 fawns at once

Species	1/1-12/31/11
American Crow	5
American Goldfinch	4
American Robin	20
American Woodcock	1
Bald Eagle	16
Barred Owl	2
Beaver	1
Black Bear	5
Black Duck	1
Black-billed Cuckoo	1
Black-capped Chickadee	1
Broad-winged Hawk	3
Canada Goose	3
Cedar Waxwing	1
Chipping Sparrow	1
Common Grackle	2
Common Loon	3
Common Raven	2
Coyote	5
Deer Mouse	4
Downy Woodpecker	1
Eastern Bluebird	3
Eastern Chipmunk	2
Eastern Cottontail	42
Eastern Garter Snake	2
Eastern Gray Squirrel	21
Eastern Phoebe	3
European Starling	4
Flying Squirrel (northern/southern combined)	3
Gray Fox	2
Great Blue Heron	1
Great Horned Owl	3
Hairy Woodpecker	2
Hermit Thrush	2
Hooded Merganser	5
Horned Lark	1
House Finch	1
House Sparrow	1
Least Bittern	1
Mallard Duck	6
Midland Painted Turtle	1
Mourning Dove	7
Northern Flicker	1
Northern Saw-Whet Owl	2
Pileated Woodpecker	2
Pine Grosbeak	1
Pine Siskin	1
Porcupine	1
Purple Finch	2
Raccoon	8
Red Fox	3
Red Squirrel	14
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1

Red-eyed Vireo	1
Red-tailed Hawk	2
Rock Dove	4
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	5
Ruffed Grouse	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Snapping Turtle	3
Snowshoe Hare	2
Song Sparrow	1
Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	9
Tree Swallow	3
Turkey Vulture	3
Virginia Opossum	1
Western Painted Turtle	3
Whippoorwill	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	8
White-tailed Deer	30
Wild Turkey	1
Wood Duck	2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1
	315

Thank You for Helping Us Help Them!

We are funded solely by memberships and donations. Your membership helped these animals.

Members are entitled to a 20% discount on gift shop items.

If you haven't received your instructions on how to claim your discount, contact giftshop@wildinstinctsrehab.com.

