

Welcome to

INSTINCTS

Mar 2012

Vol 2:2

"The newsletter helping you follow your Wild Instincts."

Patients First

It's been a pretty busy beginning of 2012.

Wednesday Feb 29th marked the 50th night the two black bear cubs set our sleep schedule. Over the 58 days, they were at Wild Instincts, they slowly changed from being fed every three hours to every 5. That includes the late night feedings from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. to finally 5:30 a.m.

Generally, it took about half an hour to forty-five minutes to feed them each feeding.

They were fed a special formula that very closely matches their mother's milk.

We had planned to try to place them in dens with surrogate moms the last week of February, but a record snowfall forced us to postpone.

Finally, on Friday, March 9th we got to place them into a den with a surrogate mom and two other siblings.

Look how much they grew:



The left is a front paw the night they were admitted. On the right, a front paw just days before they were placed into a surrogate den.



One of the cubs raised at Wild Instincts since 1/11/12 in his new home with his new siblings on 3/9/12. The other cub is out of camera range.

You can follow their whole journey with links to video at our blog:

www.wildinstincts.wordpress.com

Two yearling bears, in addition to the two cubs, have come in the doors this year already. Add that to the yearling bear from Dec 30, 2011 and we admitted 5 bears in 10 weeks!

On 2/7, a bobcat kit was admitted after she was caught in a legally set leg-hold trap.

Trapping season is open, but bobcat season is closed. The trapper could've just turned her loose to suffer whatever fate, he could've killed her and said nothing to anyone; he could've killed her and turned her over to the WDNR as an accidental trapping with no penalty. Instead, he brought her to Wild Instincts to at least give her a chance.

She was given a chance, but in the end, the damage sustained was too great for her to overcome.

www.wildinstinctsrehab.com

715-362-9453 (362-WILD)
4621 Apperson Dr., Rhinelander, WI 54501

715-490-2727(cell)

Construction Update

In between patient care, we are finding time to get some construction done. We are currently in the process of putting the special floor coating on the floors. Just a couple days left of that and then we'll be moving stuff in from storage and operating out of the new building instead of the converted garage!

This has been a great and difficult task-thankfully one that has been made much easier because of our wonderful volunteers. It couldn't have been done without the help of people like you-whether you donated time, painting skills, money or moving skills you are all to be commended.

We cannot function without people like you and are constantly humbled you choose to help us help them.

We thought it might be nice to read some of their thoughts and experiences.

Voices of Volunteers

We are fortunate to have a correctional center nearby. This center is a minimum security facility where the incarcerated are being assimilated back into the general population.

We've been working with these gentlemen for a quite some time. They have been working with us whenever they can from the beginning-some of them worked on clearing brush to framing walls to putting up trim and hanging doors.

They've written a note to share with you:

Jan 21, 2012

The McNaughton Volunteer crew along with supervising staff from McNaughton Correctional Center acting with a collective sense of purpose, were pleased to donate our knowledge, skills and abilities to assist Wild Instincts in fulfilling its primary purpose of helping injured wildlife and ensuring their return to the wild. We were and are proud to be able to assist your organization for such a worthy cause.

When we first discussed the idea of volunteering, we realized it was a great and wonderful idea. We quickly discovered, however, this opportunity was far more interesting and meaningful than we anticipated.

Receiving from Wild Instincts, all the particular details of the various stages of their work, made us realize how important this work is in helping in the preservation of wildlife that we can collectively share in the memory of the valuable and fun experience we had while working with you.

Furthermore, for us to have seen just some of the wildlife, to spend days and weekends helping our community and being able to give back and knowing as your organization grows in the future, we were privileged to have been a part of this process.

In closing, we wish Mark, Sharon, and all of you at Wild Instincts, great success and than them and congratulate them for their hard work in the noble goal of the preservation of our friends in the wild.

Respectfully,

The McNaughton Volunteer Crew

Volunteer Nancy has spent many hours helping with animal care, construction, fund-raising and basically whatever is needed. She wrote the following about her experiences:

WHY I VOLUNTEER

There are many reasons why I volunteer at Wild Instincts. The primary reason is my deep and abiding love for animals. If I can help one of my wild neighbors get a second chance at life, then I know I have made a positive contribution to the world of today and tomorrow.

Most of the injuries sustained by wild creatures are caused by human activity. It is our responsibility to help them recover and return to their natural home. Wild Instincts does this extremely well, and my

heart glows whenever I can assist in some small way.

Another good reason to volunteer is the joy of learning new skills. There are always numerous tasks waiting to be done of at Wild Instincts, each one just as important as the next in fulfilling the center's mission of wildlife rehabilitation. I have gained many new abilities through my volunteer work. Mark and Sharon are exceptional teachers, guiding with tremendous patience and insight. No matter what I find myself doing, I know I am helping Wild Instincts help the animals.

I have always had an interest in studying the natural world. Volunteering at Wild Instincts is better than reading books in a classroom. This is hands on learning in action. Searching the woods for proper saplings to feed the fawns is a great way to improve knowledge of trees. Selecting food items and preparing meals for patients is education about animal diets and nutrition.

There is so much to learn, and the Wild Instincts team has a wealth of experience and knowledge to share.

We all need more exercise and fresh air in our lives. Volunteering at Wild Instincts is a fantastic way to get plenty of both! If you want to improve your health and get that heart glowing with the good feeling of making a positive contribution, then join the volunteer team at Wild Instincts. Give the gift of your time by helping out on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. It will be a worthwhile experience.



"Eagle" boxes ready for transport drivers thanks to volunteer Tim M.

Rescue Driver Training Huge Success

There was a wonderful turn-out for our Rescue Driver training. These volunteers help wildlife in need get to us for care. If you missed the training sessions and would like to become a driver, contact us!



Standing room only for the first session of Rescue Driver Training.

In Honor of/In Memory of

Donations have been received

- ~ In honor of Pete & Jackie Cody
- ~ In memory of "Trip" Scheeler, a beloved companion
- ~ In memory of Paula Damsel Robinson, an animal advocate, musician and gardener
- ~ In memory of Peg Price, a lover of animals and avid gardener

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!

New Phone Number

We have an additional phone number!

We hope it's easy to remember.

If you need to reach us call:

715-362-WILD
(715-362-9453)

You can still reach our cell phone at
715-490-2727.

We monitor phones 24 hours a day, 7 days
a week!

Species 2012

Bobcat	1
Flying Squirrel (northern/southern combined)	1
Raccoon	1
Bald Eagle	2
Common Redpoll	2
White-tailed Deer	2
Black Bear	4
Total	13

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.