

Welcome to

INSTINCTS

Nov-Dec 2011

Vol 1:5

"The newsletter helping you follow your Wild Instincts."

Holiday Season Has Arrived

The holiday season is upon us already with the end of the year sight. It has been a whirlwind year at Wild Instincts full of challenges and successes- thanks to all of you for the latter. The busy animal season is behind us with just a few admissions each week. That doesn't mean we're slowing down in other aspects, though. The Intern Quarters has been winterized and closed down for the winter. The focus on outside enclosure expansions and prep is now on a day-to-day basis totally dependent on the weather. Inside construction is going full tilt. Anyone wishing to help drywall (yes, that dreaded mud word, too) contact us and we'll put you to work. Painting won't be too far behind the drywall work. In addition, we're recruiting interns for next year, applying for grants, getting ready for Rescue & Transport Driver training early next year, and giving presentations to local groups among other activities.

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!

Need a Gift Idea?

Does your list include a hard-to-buy-for person who has everything? How about a gift of wildlife for the year? Give a gift membership or make a donation in honor of someone. You can check them off your list quickly and easily without fighting any crowds!



Or if you're looking for something for someone to actually unwrap, try a Wild Instincts shirt! We have short-sleeved t-shirts, long sleeved t-shirts and hooded sweatshirts available in a great array of colors and sizes.

We are currently accepting pre-orders for holiday giving. Contact us by 12/1/11 to insure your order arriving in time for Christmas giving.

You can see all the items in our new on-line gift shop:

<http://www.wildinstinctsrehab.com/shop.htm>

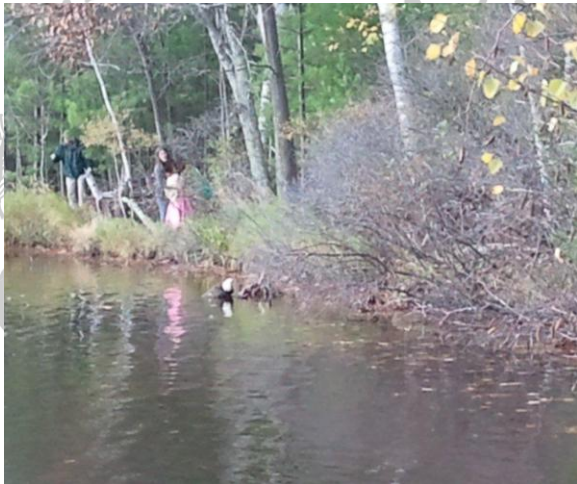
Members are entitled to a 20% discount on gift shop items. If you haven't received your instructions on how to claim your discount, contact giftshop@wildinstinctsrehab.com

A Few Wildlife Tales

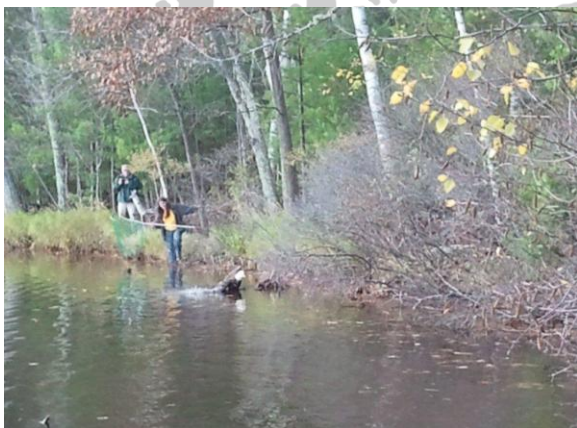
We've asked a couple of our rescue drivers to write about some of their more memorable rescues. Each rescue is memorable in its own way but some become more of adventures than rescues. While we wait for their recounts, there are some general rules of thumb for rescues to keep in mind:
~expect the unexpected and expect to get dirty &/or wet!

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In mid-October, Sharon unexpectedly found herself capturing an eagle by wading in an area lake in her jeans and tennis shoes. The full story with more pictures can be found on our blog  
[www.wildinstincts.wordpress.com](http://www.wildinstincts.wordpress.com)



Trying to figure out a way to retrieve this injured eagle without getting into the cold water.



Guess it's time to get wet. Hope my shoes stay on my feet!

## WISH LIST (We've been good, Santa Paws!)

For a complete wish list, please visit our website: [www.wildinstinctsrehab.com](http://www.wildinstinctsrehab.com)

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

\*there is a pressing need for these items!

## Artists and Crafters

A number of our talented supporters have been donating portions of their sales of crafts to Wild Instincts. This has been tremendously helpful in giving us a more steady income stream. Those of you doing this or wishing to do this, please tell us what you need- copies of newsletters for your vendor booths? Donation jars? Just let us know.

If you have a special event or show you want us to mention in a calendar of events in the newsletter or on-line, contact us.  
[sharon@wildinstinctsrehab.com](mailto:sharon@wildinstinctsrehab.com)

# Thank You for Helping Us Help Them!

### **Recent Releases**

After bear season was finished, it was time to say good-bye to our bear friend. Admitted 5/28/11 after her mom and sibling were shot & killed by a violator, she was finally returned to the wild on 10/19/11.



Tranquilized bear being carried on stretcher\*  
\*Thanks to Cindy Covers It of Eagle River for making and donating this stretcher!



Black bear gets her bearings during release.

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Our Success Rate

It appears our success rate is going to be about 66% this year; 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 noteworthy. We've been able to return two-thirds of our wild friends to the wild!

Feet for Fun

Just for fun, we have three photos of feet from three different raptors. Can you guess what species they belong to? Answers are found on the last page.



Foot Number One



Foot Number Two



Foot Number 3

Species admitted 1/1-11/20/11

Species	Count
American Crow	5
American Goldfinch	4
American Robin	20
American Woodcock	1
Bald Eagle	15
Barred Owl	2
Beaver	1
Black Bear	4
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	1
Eastern Gray Squirrel	20
Eastern Phoebe	3
European Starling	4
Flying Squirrel	3

(northern/southern combined)	
Gray Fox	2
Great Blue Heron	1
Great Horned Owl	2
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	7
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
Total	309

Feet for Fun Answers:

Number 1 = *Aegolius acadicus* (Northern Saw-whet Owl)

Number 2 = *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Bald Eagle)

Number 3 = *Cathartes aura* (Turkey Vulture)