

# WILD NEWS

P.O. Box 330, Monkton, MD 21111 410-357-5179  
www.wildliferescueinc.org



## OUR MISSION

Established in 1994, Wildlife Rescue, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization dedicated to alleviating the suffering of sick, injured and orphaned animals. We provide assistance to the public with wildlife emergencies through the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife with the goal to release back to nature. We provide educational opportunities to communities to foster a respect for our wild neighbors and implement humane non-lethal programs. We are dedicated to providing humane solutions for co-existing with wildlife. We believe there is always a humane answer to any wildlife issue. We are an all volunteer organization and no one gets a salary.

## Spring /Summer Babies *by Lierra Lenhard*



We actually didn't have much of a Spring this past year. By early June temperatures were unusually hot. This was very bad news for our wildlife, especially the baby deer. By the time people called for help, in too many cases it was too late, which was depressing upsetting and frustrating. I was getting bombarded with fawn calls on the deer sterilization line, but even with all the years of experience that I have with fawns, it was incredibly difficult. It never failed, that as soon as I put my pajamas on, we would get another call and have to run out to find another poor baby in trouble. Melissa Goodman and Claudia Johnson, vet techs at Chadwell Animal Hospital were wonderful at getting fawns care. When there was a fawn in their area they always stepped up. Melissa even left an important family get together to pick up a fawn that was seriously injured. We would also like to thank Dr. Gold and Dr. Haskin at Chadwell for their expertise with injured fawns and all the other wildlife too!

Barbara would like to thank all the volunteers for their hard work this summer feeding the babies and keeping them clean and content until their release.

It will still be busy this fall and winter. Raccoon babies who are too young to be released will be wintered over at Wildlife Rescue.



**Remember me! I was on the cover of the Spring newsletter as a tiny baby. Here I am getting big and strong before my release.**



**We hang cloth tote bags for raccoon babies to snuggle in.**

# Surviving the Winter

Did you ever wonder how the animals in your back yard survive the winter?

We all know in the fall squirrels are collecting those acorns for the long winter ahead, but how do the other animals survive?

Here are some interesting facts about our backyard wild friends.

**Rabbits** eat grasses and other plants they can find during times in the winter with little snow. The bark of young trees and shrubs is eaten when snow covers other plant foods. In the winter, the rabbit will seek out a place with protection from snow or wind. Overhead cover such as a bush protects the rabbit from birds of prey. Rabbits frequently use groundhog burrows during winter months and sunbathe in any nearby sunny spots.

**Gray Squirrels** do not hibernate but instead rely on their fat reserves, thick fur and hidden, buried food stores (caches) to survive the long, cold winters when food is scarce. Gray squirrels can be seen out in the winter months during the day. A squirrel will also use its big, fuzzy tail to keep itself warm and toasty—it'll wrap its tail around itself like a built-in blanket during wintertime. The gray squirrel is a scatter-hoarder; it hoards food in numerous small caches for later recovery. Some caches are quite temporary, especially those made near the site of a sudden abundance of food which can be retrieved within hours or days for re-burial in a more secure site. Others are more permanent and are not retrieved until months later. It has been estimated that each squirrel makes several thousand caches each season. The squirrels have very accurate spatial memory for the locations of these caches, and use distant and nearby landmarks to retrieve them. Smell is used once the squirrel is close to the cache.

A gray squirrel can hide 25 nuts in half an hour and can later find roughly 80 percent of those it buried. Gray squirrels play an important role in reforestation with their habit of planning for the future by hiding nuts and tree seeds in so many locations in the fall to eat throughout the winter. Some are never recovered and sprout, growing into trees and bushes.

**Red Fox** grow long, thick winter coats. Instead of hiding out in a den, a red fox will usually just curl up right out in the open. Wrapped in its big, bushy tail, the fox stays nice and warm—even when it's completely covered by snow.

Finding food is a bigger problem. Small animals such as mice, ground squirrels, birds, and lizards make up most of a red fox's diet. And in some places, many of those prey animals are hard to find during the winter. Good thing that a red fox has super-sharp hearing. It can hear a mouse squeaking from as far away as the length of a football field! And when it hears that squeak or a rustling in leaves or tiny footsteps under snow, it leaps into action! So even though there isn't as much food around, a red fox will find whatever food there is.

## MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

Memorial and Tribute Gifts honor a special family member, friend or pet while supporting Wildlife Rescue's programs. The following Memorial and Tribute Gifts were received from 5/1/15 to 10/30/15.

### *In Memory of:*

**Puff** ~ Diana & Tom Waesche  
**Hanna Crafton** ~ Ann Logsdon  
**All My Past Bunnies** ~ Janelle Dietrich

**Gerda Deterer, Founder of Wildlife Rescue.** It has been 6 years since she passed over to Rainbow Bridge, yet she is still with us. ~ Everyone at Wildlife Rescue

### *In Honor of:*

**My Sister, Marilyn Hall** ~ Beth Wiseman

### *Wildlife Parents:*

**Bird Adoption In Memory of Jazzy** ~ Kelly Hupfeld  
**Squirrel Adoption In Memory of Mel Carlson** ~ Barb & Sally

**Chipmunks** are small members of the squirrel family. Chipmunks generally gather food on the ground in areas with underbrush, rocks, and logs, where they can hide from predators like hawks, foxes, coyotes, weasels, and snakes. They feed on insects, nuts, berries, seeds, fruit, and grain which they stuff into their generous cheek pouches and carry to their burrow or nest to store. Chipmunks hibernate, but instead of storing fat, they periodically dip into their cache of nuts and seeds throughout the winter.

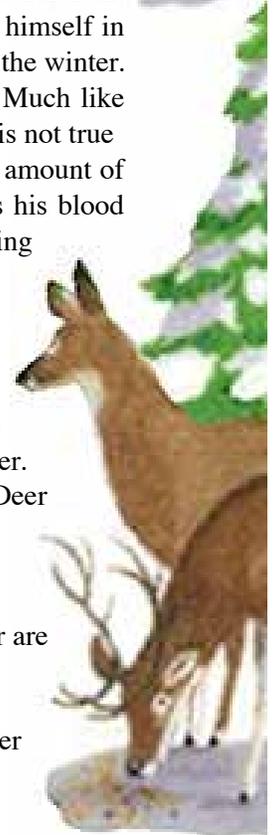


**Groundhogs** are true hibernators, entering a deep sleep in October and emerging in early spring. During hibernation, a groundhog's temperature drops from 99° F to 40° F, and its heartbeat slows from 80 beats per minute to 5. During this time, groundhogs survive on the fat reserves that they accumulate from their hefty summer and fall diets.

**Raccoons** also combat starvation in the winter by building up fat stores in the summer and autumn months. Over the course of the winter, a raccoon may lose between 14 and 50 percent of his body weight depending on how far north he lives and the severity of the winter, making those extra pounds from summer essential to his survival. The fat builds most heavily in the tail, which may help the raccoon stay warm by wrapping it around himself in the cold. In addition to increased fat stores, raccoons grow a thicker coat of fur to help insulate them in the winter. The fur traps body heat close to the skin and helps keep them warm both in their dens and outside. Much like some animals go into hibernation, raccoons will enter a state known as torpor in the winter. While this is not true hibernation, the raccoon can sleep in a curled position in his den for weeks, significantly lowering the amount of energy he needs to survive. His body temperature lowers and increased insulin production decreases his blood sugar. On warmer days, the raccoon will wake up and spend some time foraging for food before returning to his den. This gives the small mammal many of the benefits of hibernation, while still keeping him alert to predators and potential food sources. Torpor will last longer for raccoons in colder climates, while those in warmer southern climes may never enter the state.



**White Tail Deer** in Maryland start adding extra pounds of fat in late summer to make it through the winter. In summer, deer have reddish-brown coats, which they shed for grayish-brown ones in the winter. Their winter coats are well insulated, with dense under fur; the longer guard hairs have hollow shafts. Deer store extra body fat around their organs and under their skin. This provides insulation and energy reserves. Behavioral adaptations are important for winter survival too. Deer form larger groups and move to more sheltered areas known as deer yards, where stands of fir, cedar and spruce, create good cover. The trees' canopies help to intercept the snow and reduce its depth. While larger numbers of deer are able to share the energy costs required to keep trails open that provide access to cover, food and escape routes. Snow can make it very difficult for deer to find food. This is when, unfortunately deer eat ornamental plants which gets them in trouble with homeowners. Spraying plants with products that deter deer is very important during the winter if you do not want plants eaten, especially if it is a bad winter with lots of snow.



Please fill out this coupon and mail it to: Wildlife Rescue, Inc., P.O. Box 330, Monkton, MD 21111

**YES! I want to save animals in need. Here's my tax-deductible donation of:**

\$25     \$50     \$75     \$100     \$250     \$500     \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

For credit card donations, please call or go to [www.wildliferescueinc.org](http://www.wildliferescueinc.org) and select Make A Donation

This donation/adoption is in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

**I want to adopt and become a "Wildlife Parent"** (Donation must be \$100. or more. Please check one animal below)

For each adoption you will receive a certificate with a color photo of the animal species of your choice, a beautiful Wildlife Rescue reusable tote bag or a T-shirt and in the next newsletter you will receive recognition of your adoption.

Bird     Duck     Raccoon     Fawn     Rabbit     Squirrel     Fox    **Circle: Tote or T-Shirt**

## Summer Raffle Winners

1st Prize *Kriste Grabill* -

*Thank you for donating your prize back to the animals!*

2nd Prize *Stacey Shaffer*

3rd Prize *Virginia Aleksalza*

*Thank You!*

**All Our Volunteers** – For donating so much of your time for our wildlife babies!

**Becky Wolff of Dramatic Visions LLC** – For our great website!

**Mike Masenoir, Barbara & Pam, Print Shack** – For the printing & mailing support!

**Our Vets, their Staff and the organizations who work hand in hand with us!**

## "Babies Go Wild Raffle"

**Your donation is how we help and care for the animals.  
We receive no government funding.**

To our dismay, deer hunting started Sept. 11th and continues to Jan. 31st.  
Studies prove when hunters invade our woods,  
deer are scared into the roads when their peaceful habitats are disturbed.  
Please drive carefully and be aware!  
Go to [www.deersolutionsmd.com](http://www.deersolutionsmd.com) for tips on living with deer

# WILD NEWS

Winter 2015-16

**Barbara Connor,**  
*Wildlife Director*

## Board of Directors

Enid Feinberg, *President*

Meredith Callahan

*Vice President of Finance  
and Treasurer*

Lierra Lenhard,  
*Vice President of*

*Communications and Secretary*

Matt Matthias

Hanne Perkins

## Veterinary Consultants

Keith Gold, DVM

Tamie Haskin, DVM

## Board Members Emeritus

Gerda Deterer

Wayne Deterer



## Looking For a Great Holiday Gift?

By Donating \$100.00 or more you can  
Give the Gift of becoming a "Wildlife Parent"  
for that special animal lover in your life.

Your adoption will contribute to their daily care  
which includes veterinary treatment, food, housing and special treats.  
Other details on page 3 in Donation box



## Certificate of Fawn Adoption In Memory of Gerda



[www.wildliferescueinc.org](http://www.wildliferescueinc.org)

*I am a white-tail deer fawn.*

I was rescued and brought to Wildlife Rescue, Inc.  
Fawns come here when they are attacked by  
domestic dogs, suffer from lawn mower and farm  
equipment injuries, or when their Mom's get killed.

Here I will be bottle fed 3 times a day and stay  
with other rescued fawns in a fenced in pasture.

I will start to nibble on grass and hay  
at about 6 weeks old and will be weaned off my  
bottle slowly and given whole corn and  
deer pellets to supplement my diet. When I am  
about 3 months old, I will still have my spots but  
I will be strong enough to forage for food on my  
own and I will be released back to the wild.

Fearing her scent may attract predators, a mother  
deer leaves her fawn alone most of the day.  
If you encounter a fawn lying quietly by itself - and  
it looks healthy - leave it alone. Mom will be back.