

Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc.

Helping injured and orphaned wildlife and nurturing an appreciation for our local wildlife and environment.



Squirrels, and More Squirrels

We took in our first gray squirrel of the year on February 8, 2010. As of September 27, 2010 PWR has taken in 98 gray squirrels. Of the 98 squirrels we received so far this year, we have lost 28, 6 had to be euthanized, and 22 were released.

Our first baby gray squirrels of the fall season were received on July 17, 2010. They were two females that were only two weeks old. The youngest babies we received this fall were two newborns just three days old that weighed about 12-13 grams.

Our rehabilitators are currently caring for 36 baby squirrels varying in ages. A few adults have also come in, three of which were released and one which had to be euthanized.



The rehabilitators also transfer a number of squirrels to each other depending on the age and number they receive. The youngest ones, less than two weeks old, need to be fed 6-8 times a day. The number of times decreases as they get older. As you can imagine, feeding squirrels is a very time consuming process.

In addition to the birds and gray squirrels, PWR has taken in 2 flying squirrels, 19 opossums, 5 Eastern cottontail rabbits, 2 box turtles, 1 mallard duck, and 3 mice so far this year.

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A Note from the President

Years ago I became involved in working with wildlife because I loved the chance to have personal contact with the local wild animals that we rarely get to handle in our daily lives. I loved learning about them and watching the babies grow and the injured improve. Through the years I am finding that I still look forward to the first baby of the season, the unusual case, and the ability to be around such wild creatures. I now equally enjoy the opportunity to meet new people from all walks of life that also care about our wildlife and environment. I have formed some of the best friendships of my life through this work.

This year I have equally enjoyed teaching others about wildlife and meeting the folks that bring them in for care. Our work is also about being there for the person that calls feeling helpless and stressed. It is a great feeling to be able to assist that person who is desperate for help and cares.

Melissa Coe



Frick and Frack and the Professor

The Professor came to Piedmont Wildlife as a nestling. Like many of the baby mourning doves we receive, he needed to be tube fed until he was able to eat on his own. We cared for him along with other baby birds only handling them when necessary. Once he was able eat on his own, he was placed in our outdoor flight cage.

The Professor, ready for his first release, flew into the nearest tree, where he spent the day. He wasn't quite ready to be on his own, and in the evening he returned to the area of the flight cage. This routine went on for some time until he finally left for a short time. Before too long, however, he returned again, only this time he had a wound on his head. We treated the injury and he was put back into the flight cage for recovery. The Professor was released three more times, only to return each time with a new injury.

The following spring, after wintering in captivity, Professor was joined by Frick and Frack, our new baby mourning doves, and a couple of robins in the outdoor flight cage. The robins got along great with The Professor and his two new companions. Just as they were nearing

release, a passing hawk frightened them so badly they panicked and injured themselves trying to escape. The release of the birds was postponed.

After a few weeks of recovery, The Professor, along with Frick and Frack, were finally released just outside of the flight cage. Unlike most birds that are released and never seen again, the three doves continued to hang around. One evening while searching for some plants suitable to feed our groundhogs, something landed on my head. I pulled my phone from my pocket and took a picture to see who had mistaken me for a tree! It was one of the Frick and Frack doves. I suppose he was checking in! One of the three is often found feeding near the feet of the volunteers who are doing their rounds. The Professor is now one year old, and continually checks in at Piedmont Wildlife along with Frick and Frack.



“PWR is for the Birds”



As of September 27, PWR took in 140 birds since the beginning of the year. This included 78 nestlings, 46 fledglings, and 16 adults. Unfortunately, many did not survive. However, a total of 60 have been released back into their natural habitats. The most common species we took in was the Carolina Wren, whose survival rate was very low. Wrens can be very difficult to rehabilitate due to their nutritional needs and fragility outside of their natural environment. The next most common species were the American Robin, European Starling, and Eastern Bluebird. Their rates of survival were higher for these species as they are much heartier when kept in captivity. In all, we cared for 20 different species.

This past year proved especially challenging for bird rehabilitation. We had an outbreak of avian pox in our flight cage. Avian pox is a slow developing disease of birds caused by several different strains of Avipoxvirus. The form of pox that infected our birds caused warty growths on the feet, legs, base of the beak, and eye margins. They were treated for their symptoms and fortunately, none were lost to the disease. A couple of local hawks also raised havoc with our birds in the flight cage. Their presence outside the cage frightened the birds, causing many self-inflicted injuries. These injuries were bad enough to move them indoors.

On Sunday, June 27, 2010, PWR held a basic care workshop at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library in Greensboro for local rehabbers and employees of veterinary hospitals and animal shelters. The workshop included a PowerPoint presentation which covered the basics for the handling and caring of birds, followed by hands-on feeding of some of the PWR birds. Louise Brown also delivered a presentation on bird identification. The highlight of the day was the one-on-one training provided by Melissa Coe in preparing the food and feeding the baby birds. Snacks were sponsored by Happy Tails Emergency Clinic in Greensboro, NC.

Save the Date!



*Do Something Nice for
Local Wildlife and Yourself!*

Come Join Us At

**TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES**
 Jefferson Village Shopping Center • 1564-A Highwoods Blvd.
 Greensboro, NC 27410 • 336.275.1204

**Thursday, November 18
6pm-8pm**

Thanks to the generosity of Ten Thousand Villages, they are giving Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc. 15% of their total sales during this time to help in the rescue and rehabilitation of local wildlife!

Come See Us & Help Our Friends!



**PIEDMONT
WILDLIFE
REHAB, INC.**
 Find us on Facebook

You Found a Baby Squirrel...What do you do Next?

Baby squirrels are found for several reasons. Often because of wind or rain damaging the nest or sometimes because the mother has died and not returned to feed them and they begin to crawl around in search of food and fall out of the nest. Often the squirrels receive internal and/or external injuries from branches as they fall. They may also have bloody noses or damaged teeth from landing on the ground. Cats or dogs may locate the downed babies and bring them to you. It is common for juvenile squirrels to approach people for help. If finding a baby squirrel please look and listen for additional ones in the area, as there are usually three to a nest but can range from one to seven.

Handle the squirrel carefully and as little as possible in case of injury. Very young baby squirrels rarely bite or carry rabies but often do have fleas. If in doubt, wear gloves to protect yourself. Adult squirrels will bite!

The baby you find may very cold, check the temperature by touch and environment. Put the squirrel in a container with an old t-shirt and heat source if it is cold. You may place one end of the container on a heating pad on a low setting, use a plastic bag, soda bottle or tied rubber glove with hot water as a source of heat. Be sure they do not leak and check the baby's temperature often. Keep in a dark quiet place and away from children and pets.

DO NOT FEED the animal. Unless you saw the baby fall from the nest it will need hydrating by a veterinarian or rehabilitator as soon as possible. Baby squirrels aspirate very easily when given fluids and require special formula at different stages of their life in order for their bones to grow correctly, for these and other reasons it is illegal to keep them and best to find professional help.

Our Website:

<http://www.piedmontwildliferehab.org>

Watch for our new website the end of October and join the group Piedmont Wildlife Rehab on Facebook.

To find a rehabber in your area:

http://www.ncwildlife.org/Injured_Wildlife/Injured_Contact_Rehabber.htm



Baby squirrel about four weeks old

Please Help Us Help Our Wildlife

Donations Needed *(these are tax-deductible!!)*

Food:

- Walnuts, Pecans, Acorns, Seed

Bedding:

- Flannel, fleece, cotton, or an any soft materials

Other:

- Large Cages, Building materials
- Heavy feeding dishes
- Toilet paper, paper towels
- Plastic Peanut Butter or other jar lids
- Commercial Building
- Incubator
- Coffee Grinder



Cage Building Volunteers

Volunteer:

- Help transport animals to rehabbers and/or to veterinarians
- Clean Cages
- Yard Work
- Build or repair Cages and nest boxes (great service or Scout project)
- Fundraising
- Grant Writers
- Intern to achieve permit

Money: Your contributions are also greatly appreciated and can be made in Memory or Honor of a person or pet and listed on our web site. Mail to:

Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc.
 2912 Liberty Rd.
 Greensboro, NC 27406



Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone # _____

e-mail _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

About Us

Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc., a non-profit 501 (C) (3) formed in 2007 by licensed in-home rehabilitators. We receive no governmental or state funding and rely solely on private donations. Our goals are to relieve suffering in injured wildlife through rehabilitation and assist orphaned babies in a professional manner that prepares them for release back into a natural habitat, capable of reproducing another healthy generation for the environment and our enjoyment. We are committed to sharing the importance of environmental stewardship and encouraging a better understanding of our local wildlife.

PWR is a group of wonderful hard working board members and volunteers with too many to name. We thank all of the high school students, college interns, Boy and Girl Scouts and our few but consistent volunteers. We also thank the spouses that allow some of them to give so much time.

Our rehabilitators continue to learn through additional years of experience as well as yearly refresher courses. Combined, our volunteers have state permits for small mammals and Federal permits for song and migratory birds. We care for approximately 300 animals a year and average answering 10 phone calls per day. Wildlife Rehabilitation is a difficult and expensive volunteer job. We love what we do but can only be one link in the chain needed to give injured and orphaned wildlife a second chance at a natural life. Please help us to help them.

Past Fundraising Events of 2010



Golden Antiques and Treasures Quilt Raffle



*Greensborough Coffee
Featuring Storytellers*

Great Food and Great Music for a Great Cause!
Come Join Us At
McALISTER'S DELI
 1403 Highwoods Blvd.
 Greensboro, NC 27410 • 336.252.1000
Wednesday, October 27
5pm-9pm

Thanks to the generosity of McAlister's Deli, they are giving Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc 5% of their total sales during this time to help in the rescue and rehabilitation of local wildlife!

Music provided by Storytellers, a band that makes compositions of rock, blues, gospel, jazz, R&B and Latin music to create a new and exciting genre. "Your Story... Our Music... One Sound!"

 Find us on Facebook 



Southwest Park Fireworks Display



Chick-fil-A



Special thanks to Katie Rose, Board Member and Fundraising Coordinator, for all her hard work, and to all of our loyal friends, volunteers and supporters.