



Summer Newsletter

CALGARY WILDLIFE



Message From The Executive Director

We asked for your help, and you answered! This spring, we saw a tremendous increase in both one-time donations and sign-ups for monthly donations. Our regular monthly contributions are now higher than they've ever been, thanks to your generosity! We continue to campaign to increase our monthly donors and are excited to share that we are about halfway to our goal of 500 new donors. If you haven't signed up yet, please consider joining our community of **monthly supporters today**. You'll be part of the Wild Hearts Club and will receive quarterly communications of videos, interviews, and discounts on merch, only for Wild Hearts Club members!

As we dive into our busy season, we have already seen over 1200 patients come through our doors this year. When I take a step back to observe our extremely passionate team of staff and volunteers, I am moved by our enthusiastic group, doing all they can to help injured and orphaned wildlife in need.

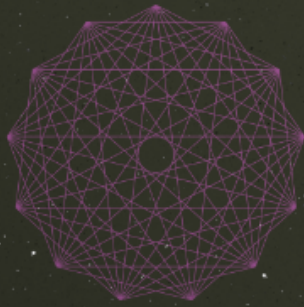
Each patient we serve is a testament to the incredible support we receive from our community.

We are immensely grateful for our caring community of supporters. Your contributions and dedication make a significant difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for all you do for us and the wildlife we help.

Enjoy your summer!

Beki Hunt
Executive Director





CJSW Spotlight!

We were thrilled to be asked to sit down with **CJSW Radio** for a full-length spotlight on what we do.

You can listen to the full interview here:

<https://cjsw.com/program/artslink/episode/20240527>

Pattison Ads

Have you seen our new educational ads around town? If not, look out for them on billboards and public transit! If you do see one, snap a selfie standing in front of one and we may use it on social media.

Send your selfies to admin@calgarywildlife.org. Huge shout out to **Pattison Ads** for supporting this education campaign!



Outdoor Bat Flight Pen

We've finally finished our outdoor bat flight pen! This has been in the works for a while, and we're so pleased it's finished. Spanning 40 feet long, which is the length bats need to echolocate, this outdoor pen is the perfect addition to our bat hospital, where we can over-winter bats when needed.

Alberta is home to nine bat species, three of them being listed as endangered and special concern by the province. Bats play a crucial part in maintaining our ecosystems, as they are an amazing form of insect control, with one bat eating thousands in a night!

Thanks to **The Calgary Foundation** and **Dan Primeau** for funding this project, and to the amazing craftsmanship of **Maui Klucker!**

Interested in supporting bats in Alberta? [Sponsor a bat patient today.](#)



Paramount Resources

The team at **Paramount Resources** was on site in May to help us with our spring clean-up and get our site ready for our busy season!

Thanks to the team, we couldn't have done it without them!



New Garden - Big Thanks Jim!

We are slowly but surely building up our gardens to be able to produce more vegetables for our patients.

Shout out to our senior grounds volunteer **Jim Rainkie** for leading this project and putting in so much time. Also, thanks to the **RBC** crew who were out helping four weekends in a row!

Without their help, we wouldn't be so ahead with our gardening this summer.

Interested in being a regular gardening volunteer? If so, we want you! Please email admin@calgarywildlife.org for more information.



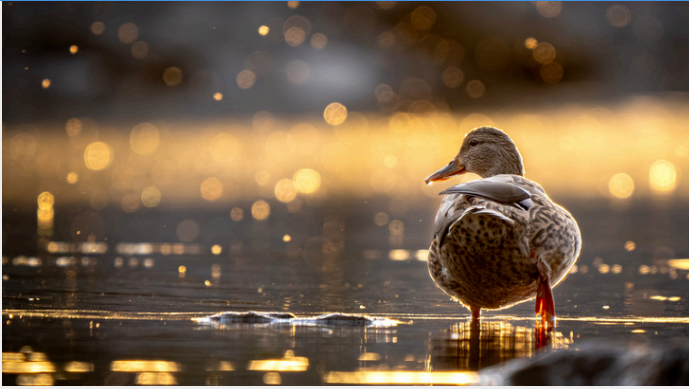
Urban Wildlife Presentations and Public Outreach

Since the start of the year, **we've delivered 80 different education programs** to Calgarians young and old and have attended numerous community events to promote Calgary Wildlife and its mission. Our education programs delivered include the five animals offered in the Wild Wise curriculum (skunks, beavers, porcupines, bats, and magpies), our Swainson's hawk program with education ambassador Lito, and our brand new Marmot program with our education ambassador Marmalade, as well as our owl pellet program and Calgary Wildlife: Who we are and what we do program.

Interested in having Calgary Wildlife come to your community or school, [learn more here.](#)



More News

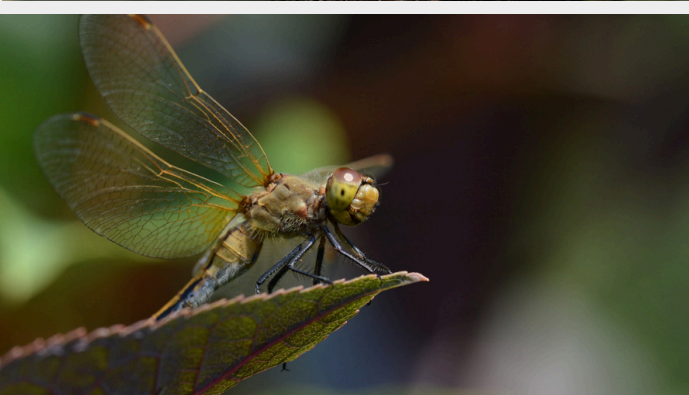


Eye For The Wild Winners

As always, we were amazed by all the gorgeous photos that were entered for this year's **Eye For The Wild** contest.

We've compiled the full list of winners and honourable mentions on our blog, check them out [here](#).

Thank you to our official contest sponsor, **The Wild Bird Store**, contest sponsors, Donna Mac, Vistek Calgary, and My Fave Straps, and our judges, Darryl MacDonald, Allison Seto, Brian McDonald, and Kyle Matthews.



Baby Shower Success!

Wow! We are blown away by all of the support received for this year's baby shower.

Over the course of the baby shower campaign, we were able to raise \$74,000, far surpassing our goal of 30,000! We were also able to secure three new incubators for our most vulnerable patients.

A million thanks to all our supporters and donors, you've made this year's baby shower the most successful shower to date!

If you missed our livestreams, not to worry, you can watch them back on our [YouTube Channel](#).



Patient News - Long-Eared Owl

On May 28th, we welcomed a rare long-eared owl into our care. Almost exactly one month later, it was released back to its original location. The owl had been found injured and stunned in a back alley, appearing very quiet upon intake and seemingly unable to see from either eye.

If only our patients could share their stories. This owl was underweight, with its left eye sealed shut with blood and infection. Blood covered its beak, and there appeared to be a hole on the side of the beak. Swelling at its right shoulder caused its right wing to hang low, and it couldn't stand upright on its own.

Upon closer inspection, we managed to uncover the eye that was sealed shut. Using warm water, we softened the hardened blood and discharge, then flushed the debris from the eye with sterile fluid. A test revealed an ulcer on the left eye and confirmed the hole in the beak. The owl remained quiet and unresponsive to visual stimuli, though it occasionally struck with its feet, possibly reacting to sound.

We stabilized the owl with subcutaneous fluids, antibiotic eye drops, and pain relief to ensure comfort. It was placed in a nest within a medium-sized dog kennel to rest for the evening. Progress during the first week was slow, with little improvement in its ability to stand and seemingly random strikes with its talons. However, its eye healed quickly, and it showed good improvement in body condition through consistent eating.

In the second week, the owl began jumping up and grabbing the kennel mesh when we entered for treatments. We moved it to a larger kennel where it perched easily on branches. By the third week, it was cleared to use the entire isolation room with perches, where it appeared content and active. As it grew stronger and moved around more, our veterinarian rechecked its eye, beak, and wing, eventually clearing it for transfer to one of our flight pens.

The owl's progress was remarkable. Within a few days, it flew and maneuvered silently and perfectly, maintaining its weight through self-feeding. Confident in its readiness, we set up a prey test, which it passed successfully. This was the final step before release. With the help of a trained transport volunteer, the owl was returned to the wild, flying off gracefully into the twilight.



BIG BABY SEASON



LARGE BABIES

Deer
Magpies
Owls

Crows
Ravens
Hawks

WHAT IS A FLEDGLING?

These are juvenile birds who have left the nest and live on the ground, but still depend on multiple feedings throughout the day provided by their parents.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Give these babies their space. Make sure you don't interrupt or disturb the natural transition from juvenile to adulthood. Pets should be kept inside or on a leash.

SIGNS OF AN INJURED ANIMAL

- If they are bleeding, have a visible wound, or broken limb.
- If they are covered in flies or fly eggs.
- If they are on the side of a road.
- If they are shivering or wet.
- If they aren't moving.
- If another animal has attacked them.



Calgary Wildlife: Big Babies

A large bird sits beneath a tree on the grass. As people approach, it waddles or hops away but doesn't fly. It looks about the size of an adult bird but isn't flying. Does it need our help? Let's find out:

Canada Geese:

Goslings are born with the ability to walk, swim and feed themselves (called being precocial). Between hatching to maturity, they stay in a family group, and can be awkward, fluffy, non-flying birds. It can take about 70 days for their first flight.

Canada geese adults, and most waterbirds in general, molt all their flight feathers at once during the summer months (called a synchronous molt). They cannot fly while waiting for their new set of feathers to grow in. This is different from other birds who molt a few flight feathers at a time allowing them continued flying during this process. Because of the single molt event in adult geese, both juvenile and adult geese are more likely to retreat to the water than the air in the summer months. While it may look like they need help, once the single molt event is over, the geese will be able to fly again and do not require our intervention.

Magpies:

When the magpie fledgling is ready to leave the nest, it looks nearly as big as an adult. Leaving the nest is a big adjustment. Fledglings will be a little unbalanced as they adjust to being upright and standing on flat ground as opposed to the curves of a cup-nest. Fluttering and hopping are common behaviours for fledglings, along with fanning their wings and squawking at nearby parents from whom they are hoping to beg food. Parents supervise their young, checking in with them, and giving alarm calls when pets or people come too close. It can take some time (usually about four weeks from hatching) for the magpie to develop a full set of flight feathers, along with the muscles and skills to fly.

Fledgling magpies begin with short stumpy tails, which grow longer with time. Young fledglings will spend more time on the ground, or on low perches. Despite looking as big as the adults, they will not yet be able to fly. This stage is temporary and they are not in need of any help!

Both baby and adult wildlife will need your help if you see the following:

- Has been attacked by an animal (dog/cat for example)
- Has visible wounds, broken bone, bleeding
- Is covered in flies
- Is shivering or wet
- Is unresponsive or listless

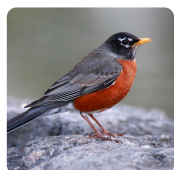
You can help young wildlife by giving them space, and keeping pets leashed as they grow through this awkward flightless stage.

When in doubt, reach out to **Calgary Wildlife's hotline at 403-214-1312** which provides expert advice, and can help determine if wildlife needs help!

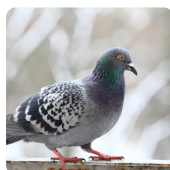
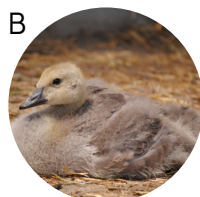
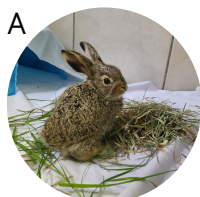
Keep an eye out and remember to maintain a respectful and safe distance when investigating wild babies in your neighbourhood!

Wildlife Challenge: Whose Baby?

Match the parent with its young!



1. American Robin



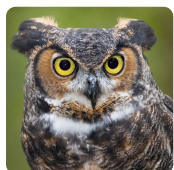
5. Rock Pigeon



2. Canada Goose



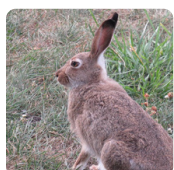
6. Mallard Duck



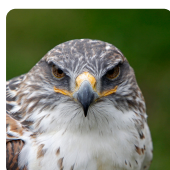
3. Great Horned Owl



7. Red Squirrel



4. White-tailed Prairie Hare



8. Ferruginous Hawk

Found injured or orphaned wildlife? Please call Calgary Wildlife at 403-214-1312.

Answers: 1.C 2.B 3.D 4.A 5.G 6.F 7.H 8.E

**Take the
Wildlife
Challenge:
Whose Baby?**

**A fun activity
for the whole
family!**

**The next time
you are
outdoors, see
how many
types of babies
you can see.**

Volunteer Spotlight: Joanne F

Q & A with Joanne

How long have you been with Calgary Wildlife?

I've been volunteering at Calgary Wildlife since February 2024

What roles have you had as a volunteer?

I work in wildlife clinic support.

In your opinion, what is the most important work that Calgary Wildlife does?

I think the Calgary Wildlife Mission Statement says it best..."Keeping communities wild through education and expert compassionate care for injured and orphaned wildlife."



What has been the biggest surprise about volunteering with Calgary Wildlife?

How much my appreciation has grown for skunks and magpies.

If you could encourage someone else to volunteer at Calgary Wildlife, what would you say?

Join the team! Meet others who love animals and learn something new along the way. You'll be welcomed and appreciated and the work you do will make a difference.

A good quote from Jane Goodall reads, "You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

The image shows a collection of 'RELEASED' cards for birds of prey, hanging from a string. Each card includes a photograph of the bird, its name, location, reason for release, and the date of release. The cards are part of a program by Calgary Wildlife.

- Card 1 (Top Left):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 2 (Top Middle):** Species: Barn Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 7.
- Card 3 (Top Right):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 34.
- Card 4 (Middle Left):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 5 (Middle Middle):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 6 (Middle Right):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 7 (Bottom Left):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 8 (Bottom Middle):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.
- Card 9 (Bottom Right):** Species: Great Horned Owl, Location: Round 100 Calgary, Reason for Admission: Injured, Date in Care: 35.

Mark it in your calendar and come say hi! We're always updating our events calendar, **[check it out here.](#)**



Ways to Help

HELP ANIMALS IN NEED BY SPOILING YOURS

Shop on our fundraising store and support the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society. Every sale earns a commission to help the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society help more wild animals in need.

UR Fundraising

We've signed up for this super cool initiative that supports charities AND local businesses! Sounds too good to be true, right? Well, it's not. UR Fundraising is a platform that **donates 18% of sales back to us**, and what's great is you can choose from a host of local businesses!

Get your groceries, pet supplies, or household items from UR Fundraising, and you'll also be supporting us!

<https://calgarywildlife.shopmyfundraising.com/>

Donate your bottles, electronics, and old clothing!

Got bottles and cans? Why not download the Skip The Depot app and have them come pick up right from your door? They will donate the refund back to us! Just make sure you choose Calgary Wildlife at checkout. Skip The Depot also accepts old clothes and electronics, saving them from the landfill!

[Donate with Skip the Depot to Calgary Wildlife](#)



Donate with
SkipTheDepot



Have you considered a gift in your will?

Another meaningful way you can support our community is by making a gift in your will. This thoughtful approach allows you to give to your loved ones and to the causes you care about most. One of our long-term donors and volunteers, Steve Paterson, has added a gift to Calgary Wildlife in his will.

Here's why: **"By including Calgary Wildlife in my will, I'm ensuring that my passion for wildlife lives on, providing vital support for the important work that Calgary Wildlife does. As a longtime volunteer and supporter of Calgary Wildlife, I've seen firsthand just how much goes into the rehabilitation process, not to mention just how much support is needed".**

You can learn more [here](#) or email us at admin@calgarywildlife.org.

Our Wish List

If you'd like to donate a product to us, or hold a fundraising event to purchase a more expensive item, take a look at some of the **items on our wishlist**. Please reach out to **admin@calgarywildlife.org** with questions.



Remote and Laser Pointer

With all the education presentations we have, a remote to move from slide to slide would be very helpful and would allow for better flow during our presentations.

View on our shopping list **here**

Wheat Bran - We need several

Wheat bran for our hungry patients. Nutritious and tasty to boost our feeding plans for several species.

View them on our shopping list **here**.



Feeding Pans - We need several

Feeding pans. Easy to clean, easy to stack, and very sturdy.

View them on our shopping list **here** and **here**

Manuka Honey - We need two

We use Manuka honey to treat many of our wild patients.

View them on our shopping list **here**



Patient Gallery



Striped Skunk
Currently in care



American Robin
42 days in care



Red Tailed Hawk
35 days in care



Northern Saw-whet Owl
Currently in care



Long-Eared Owl
103 days in care



House Finch
Currently in care



Great Horned Owlets
Currently in care



Goslings
Currently in care



Golden Crowned Kinglet
3 days in care



Common Ravens
45 days in care



Canada Jay
Currently in care



Black Billed Magpie
Currently in care

Special Thank You's

Our Donors

A special thank you to our Wild Hearts Club members for helping injured and orphaned wildlife every month. Thank you also to all of our one-time donors. It's because of your continued support we are able to treat and rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife, as well as deliver important education programs across the City to help prevent human-wildlife conflict. Interested in joining the Wild Hearts Club? [Learn more here.](#)

Our Volunteers

A giant thank you to all our fantastic volunteers! From our social media volunteers, to our pick up drivers, to our maintenance, wildlife clinic support, and education volunteers, because of you Calgary Wildlife is able to help more wildlife in need. We couldn't do what we do without your support.

Special Thanks To

Alberta Infrastructure, The City of Calgary, The Calgary Foundation, Calgary Costco Sarcee Trail NW, Blush Lane, Pattison Ads, Sponsor Energy, Garrett Gregory, Ranchmans Calgary, Lilac Festival, Government of Canada, Sheelagh Mercer and Henry Schultz, Susan Holt, Lowry Family Fund via, Calgary Foundation, Nickle Family Foundation, Sponsor Energy, Jonathan and Amy Hak, Wayne Truscott, John Bowlen Legacy Flow Through Fund 1 @ Calgary Foundation, Robert & Barbara Shaunessy, Joe and Diana Horler, Nielsen Family Wildlife Fund, Brian Lavergne, Patricia Robertson, Al Gajdostik, All Things Jill, Ann Boerner, Benefaction, Brenda Brzak, Brian Cervi, Carole Peteherych, Clayton and Roxanne Sissons, Cotton Carrier Ltd, Dianne Leonhardt, Donald SaboGalvin Family Fund c/o Calgary Foundation, Hillhurst School, Jack William Cates, Karen Zutter, Kimberly Verrier, Libby Alger, M A StanfieldMark Congram & Lorie Anne Woloschuk, Maryann Bredin, MEG Energy, Meghan Hockaday, New West Public Affairs, Olympia Charitable Foundation, Perlette Fund, Philip Rosso, Shelly Anderson, Sponsor Energy, Susan E Beairsto, Teine Energy Ltd., The Silk Road Spice Merchant, TOR WILLIAMS, Virginia Kelly.

And finally thank you to all our hard-working staff and board of directors!

For Your Viewing Pleasure



Check Out our Babies Video!

For your viewing pleasure, it's an oldie but a goodie-

[Check out the video here](#)

