

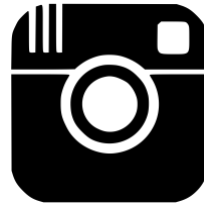


Born to Be Wild!

Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc. Newsletter November
2017



This little opossum is enjoying snuggling with a fur coat that was donated to us. Many people no longer want grandma's fur coat in their closet, but they don't know what to do with it. You can donate it to WRT! The animals love to snuggle in furs when they are little and even when they are bigger, they help to keep them warm. With the weather cooling off now, my outdoor squirrels are enjoying several fur coats to snuggle in at night. We also use the furs during presentations. Because we can't take our wildlife to schools or other organizations, the furs help us to tell the story about what we do and give the kids something to touch. At our last presentation for the World O! Water Festival, we showed off furs from



OUTREACH

We are on Instagram! If you are on Instagram, please follow us and tell your friends! The rehab season is slowing down, but the stories these photos tell are amazing!

https://www.instagram.com/wildlife_rescue_team_inc/?hl=en or search

Wildlife Rescue Team Inc to find us.

FUNDRAISING

Giving Tuesday is November 28th!

This is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. "It is a movement to create an international day of giving at the beginning of the Christmas and the holiday season." Many people will be eating too much on Thanksgiving, midnight shopping on Black Friday, celebrating Small Business Saturday and after a break on that Sunday, will do more shopping on Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday gives them a chance to help out various nonprofits while enjoying the non-commercialization of their favorite charities. Please consider donating to WRT and make this part of your year-end routine. Go to GivingTuesday.org for more info.

End of year Member Awards

We are collecting names for the annual awards! With as busy as we've been this year and new members who have helped to make a difference, it should be easy to come up with people to honor! Nominate Outstanding Member, Outstanding Rehabber, Rookie Rehabber, etc. If you would like to nominate a WRT member for one of these awards, please write a short paragraph on why you are nominating them and submit it to one of the awards committee members

water animals and discussed the differences between a beaver's coat and a coyote's. You can contact us if you have furs to donate. We also work with **Born Free USA**, that promotes a program called Fur For the Animals. They collect furs from across the country and ship to WRT periodically throughout the year.



Eastern Red Bat (rescued this fall by WRT)

There are almost 1,000 species of bats. They eat millions of insects, along with pollinating and seed dispersal. Even though rabies is not prevalent in bats, they can have rabies.

At this time of year, they will find their way inside to get warm. If you find a bat inside your home, open windows & doors and/or isolate the room and try to let the bat fly out on its own. If you can catch it in a container and transfer it outside, that is best for it. Or call your local animal control or WRT. We can hibernate them over the winter. They can't take off from the ground up - so if you put a bat outside, place them up on a tree, bush or your fence/balcony. They can then swoop and fly away when it's time.

They can get into very small holes in roofs, attics and window screens, so if you have had more than one bat in your home, you should check where they might

before Dec. 15, 2017. Committee Members: Vikki Henry & Mary Beth Lienemann at WRT, PO Box 80127, Lincoln NE 68501 or email us at contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org.

The most common bat in our area is the Little Brown Bat. They tend to live in buildings and can eat over 600 mosquitoes an hour! They learn to fly at only three weeks old.

We also get Big Brown Bats, which are a brown/copper color. They will fly until November or December and like to use buildings for their homes.

The Red Bat (pictured to the left) is more of a yellow brown with frosted fur. They roost in trees and really like to eat moths.

The Hoary Bat is the only native land mammal of Hawaii. They have dark, frosted fur. They like to eat moths and roost in evergreens and are known to have twins.

I found this bat article recently -
\$1.4 million in grants announced to fight bat killing disease

Oct. 24, 2017

HOUSTON (AP) - A public-private partnership is granting nearly \$1.4 million to test treatments to halt a disease threatening the nation's bat population.

The white-nose syndrome fungus, first detected in New York state in 2006, has spread to 31 states and five Canadian provinces. Texas and Nebraska are the most recent states infected.

The grants announced Tuesday in Houston include more than \$320,000 to Texas Tech University and Bat Conservation International to assess whether specific microclimate conditions can be manipulated to minimize the disease. It attacks hibernating bats and is responsible for killing more than 6 million bats over the past decade.

The partnership called the Bats for the Future Fund includes the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Shell Oil and Southern Co.

NOTICE FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

We will be meeting on Tuesday, November 14th at Grace Lutheran Church at 2225 Washington in Lincoln. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Our December meeting will be on the 12th. Bring treats to put in our thank you goody baskets!

be getting inside and remove their ability to enter.

REMINDERS

We need to fill out acquisition forms for each animal we receive. If you need forms, please contact us. Also - make sure that you fill in as much information as possible - the entire document should be completed by you, the rehabber, or your Team Leader. Even though it says "For WRT Use Only" - that is for YOU to fill out and the species needs to be specific - bird or mammal doesn't work. Please indicate raccoon, squirrel, cardinal, robin, mallard, painted turtle, Little Brown Bat, etc. We also have an online form, so if you would like the link for that to complete your paperwork, contact Vikki at dougvikki@cox.net.



WHY REHAB?

I don't know about you, but many times people ask why I got interested in rehabbing and/or how I became involved in WRT. When I was a teen in the 80's, one of the animals that conservationists were trying to save were the California Condors. Put on the endangered list in March of 1967, there are now up to over 200 birds in the wild. "In the 1980's, due to a decreasing population, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began a captive breeding program teaming with the Los Angeles Zoo and the San Diego Wild Animal Park." www.fs.usda.gov. It broke my heart to realize that living creatures in my lifetime were going extinct and would never be seen flying in the wild again. Growing up in Nebraska, it was difficult to work with Condors, but when I discovered WRT, I realized I could help birds that are native to Nebraska and still do my part for wildlife. Cornell University has a great website that includes webcams for various birds, known as "bird cams". Check out the cams for California Condors at their nest, known as the **Devil's Gate nest**, which is located in the Los Padres National Forest in California.

NEW OFFICERS

Congratulations to our new Officers:
President - Cindi Arthur
Vice President - Lynne Knutzen-Young
Treasurer - Mary Beth Lienemann
Secretary - Vikki Henry

Customer Service - remember that every time we interact with the public, we need to have quality customer service. Be polite, be prompt in returning phone calls (we all are volunteers, so we understand our schedules can be crazy!) and thank them for caring enough to call us.

REHAB SEASON 2017



Even though the majority of our rehab season is over for the year, we are still getting calls about waterfowl like ducks and geese. Many people worry about birds that in the wild as the weather gets colder. Waterfowl are meant to be in cold water. Their bodies circulate blood a little differently than humans - it actually cools off in their legs, which are under water and then warms up again above the water. So - they are just fine in the cold. Their feathers and down keep them warm!

FUN THINGS TO DO

NATURE'S GIFTS: DECORATIONS FROM THE GREAT OUTDOORS. Dec. 9, 2017 @ 9:00 am at Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area, 10615 Hwy 71, Gering NE. Come and create garland feeders, bird feeders and fun nature ornaments that will dress up the Nature Center and your own homes for the winter season!

INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE INFO

WHAT DO WE DO?

If you are interested in a speaker or presentation please contact our hotline in Lincoln at 402-473-1951. We do not charge for our presentations, but donations are always accepted, like money or items from our wish list like towels, blankets and cages.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Remember to use iGive.com and/or Amazon Smiles

My youngest son has always loved cheetahs. In 2011, we were lucky enough to meet Dr. Laurie Marker, who is the founder of Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia. Just the other day, we were again able to meet Dr. Marker at an event at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. What an amazing woman, with passion for cheetahs and so forward-thinking. They are doing education with local farmers about cheetahs and livestock predation (of which there isn't much actual predation) and tracking scat with specially trained dogs in order to learn about cheetahs and their lifestyles. Listening to Dr. Marker reminded me how important our work is to Nebraska wildlife. We may not have cheetahs, oryx, lions and wild dogs, but we have many of our own unique animals. Have you enjoyed watching a beaver or muskrat lately? Watching a squirrel in your yard? Seeing a gull swoop and dive over a local lake or farm field? Take the time to learn about our wildlife and what we can do to help them have a better place to live and be wild, which is what they deserve.

for your upcoming holiday shopping! Go to <http://smile.amazon.com> to sign up and shop. When you shop online for your friends' and families' gifts, part of the purchase price goes to WRT!

Collecting all of those Malt O'Meal cereal bags, Clif candy bar wrappers and Scotch tape dispensers has paid off for us. Just the other day, we requested a check for \$137 which are the proceeds of our last year of sending in items to be repurposed and recycled. Keep collecting! For an updated list, go to our website at wildliferescueteamincne.org.



JOIN THE TEAM

Mail your completed form to: Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc., P.O. Box 80127, Lincoln NE 68501

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

CHOOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TYPE AND MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Active - handles animals (must be 16 or older)

Associate - does not handle animals, but believes in what we do!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Active Individual \$20.00 _____

Active Family \$30.00 _____

Senior Citizen (62 or over) \$10.00 _____

Associate Member \$25.00 _____

Corporate Supporter \$100.00 _____

After we receive your dues we will send you paperwork to fill out to become a member. If you are an active member, you will receive a membership card to carry with you as you rescue/rehab animals.



Hotline Phone: (402) 473-1951



Website: www.wildliferescueteamincne.org



Find us on Facebook at Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc