

Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc. Newsletter - January 2024

Helping injured, orphaned and abandoned wildlife in the state of
Nebraska since 1979.



GOODY BASKETS

At our December meeting, we filled baskets for people (vets, businesses, etc.) who have helped us over the past year. Some of the goodies our members brought - apples, oranges, bananas, banana bread, chocolates, cookies and popcorn balls. Thank you to the members who came that night and helped to make this event a success. And thank you to those members who delivered the baskets! Splitting up two dozen baskets for delivery goes fast when we all help!



NOTICE FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 13th. Join us at 7 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 2225 Washington St. in Lincoln. Go down the stairs on your right and you will find us. Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month. We canceled our January meeting due to weather.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

- We received \$1,158.94 on Giving Tuesday in November! Thanks to all of you who donated and/or encouraged others to donate!
- Magical Lights of Lincoln - We were fortunate to participate in this holiday lights event in Lincoln. For each paid admission to the event, we could receive a \$5 donation if the people chose our group. Hopefully some of our members went and enjoyed the light show!
- Thank you to everybody who made end-of-year donations! This helps us get a head start on being able to pay for supplies for Spring, which is just around the corner!

MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Stay tuned for the winners!



DONATIONS

Thank you to:

Gina, Aida, Andrea, Ava, Richard, Mike & Pat, Kelli, Hannah, Robert and Annette for their recent donations!

MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Remember that all memberships are due at the end of March. We recently sent out postcards to all members as a reminder. If you don't pay your dues by the end of March, you are no longer eligible to rehab wildlife.

REMINDERS

- **VET VISITS** If you have an animal that needs a visit to a vet, contact your Team Leader first! We are always looking for more partners for WRT and veterinarians that are able to help with injured wildlife.
- **NON-PROFIT STATUS** We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit and when someone donates items to WRT, we send them a thank you for tax purposes. Any items, including money, that are donated to you as a member, need to be reported to our Treasurer and the monies turned in so that we can keep complete records.
- **NEWSLETTER INFO** If you have photos or stories to share, send them to contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org. If you currently receive the newsletter via snail mail, and you have an email address to share, please send that to us and we can save postage. We use Mailchimp to send the newsletter via email to you.

WANT TO HELP REHAB?

Become a member of WRT. We help train, give you supplies and the support you need to raise and release the animals in our care. We could use people all across the state of Nebraska! If you have a friend who really loves animals and would like to help, have them contact us!

We help wildlife that is orphaned and injured and release them back into the wild where they belong! We welcome members of all ages and from all walks of life!

SPRING!

We might start to get animals to rehab during February, but definitely get them in March. Many times it's because a storm knocked squirrels out of the tree. If you do find an animal and it needs to be rescued, remember to start warming it up first. Do NOT give it food or water, just get it warm. Call us and we can discuss the next step. We usually get squirrels and bunnies first and then birds and raccoons come later.



We can use help this year! We need help with bunnies and songbirds in particular. If you are interested in joining WRT, contact us and we will have someone reach out to you with more information. We can meet with you to talk about how WRT works and go through the membership paperwork with you in order to get you signed up. Then we will get you connected with a Team Leader near you so you can get started.

Be patient - it will be a little while yet before we get animals, but they will be here before you know it!





Easiest Fundraising in the World!

We collect UPC codes from “Our Family” branded products. For each 1,000 UPC’s that we send in, we receive \$25. We also collect UPC codes from “Best Choice” and “Always Save” products. Feel free to send them to our PO Box, give them to a member or bring them to meetings. We will count them and send them in when we have a bundle. This is easy to do - ask your friends and family to help too. All you have to do is cut off the UPC code. I have a container to collect the codes until it’s time to count them.



NEW YEAR - ORGANIZING TIPS

With a new year and a new baby season ahead of us, I like to find new ways to stay organized. I drink a lot of iced tea and use the old tea jars to store food like formula and bird seed. That way, I can put them in the freezer (for formula) or on a shelf and just have a small jar handy when I need it. I used to use a Sharpie to write what was inside the jar on the lid, but that means I have to cross out that info when I put in something different or always put sunflower seeds in the same jar. This year, I am using painter’s tape so I can mark my jars/ice cream buckets, etc. and then tear off that tape when it’s empty and I fill it with something else.

I have also discovered that a large funnel like you use for canning comes in handy for seed!



TREES THAT ATTRACT BIRDS

If you are thinking about Spring and how to help wildlife all at the same time, consider planting certain plants that will help the animals next fall and winter.

Some ideas: Snowdrift Crabapple (fruit for birds); Washington Hawthorn (berries for birds); Eastern Hemlock (seeds for birds like juncos and chickadees); Hackberry (fruit for birds like robins); and White Flowering Dogwood (fruit for birds like turkey and quail).

FROM THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

A great tree for your yard that is evergreen and attracts nesting birds is American Arborvitae. I have Grackles, Sparrows and Finches that nest in mine and birds hide inside during cold spells.

BIRDING

If you love Birds - soon the Sandhill Crane migration will start! The Crane Trust Nature & Visitor Center says that there have been thousands of Cranes that have been there over this winter and they didn't leave. They might just hang out until Spring! Cranes typically migrate in March and April and we have hundreds of thousands of them - it's a sight to see!

The American White Pelican also migrates in the Spring and we typically see them across the state. Along with the eastern part of the state near the Missouri River, they can be seen at the Harlan County Reservoir and Lake McConaughy.

Prairie Chickens spend part of their March, April and May performing mating rituals. The males jump, stomp and inflate their orange air sacs in their necks to impress the females. These birds can be found near North Platte and McCook.

Prairie Webcams

If you enjoy checking out webcams, see the American Prairie webcams. They are based out of Bozeman, Montana. You can see bison, deer, beavers, and other animals. Go to <https://americanprairie.org/the-latest/prairie-webcams-are-live/>.

Board members:

Kim Hammeren
Pat Kelley
Lynne Knutzen-Young
LeAnn Krause and
Dawn Lautenschlager

Officers:

Cindi Arthur, President
Sally Munson, Vice President
Mary Beth Lienemann, Treasurer
Vikki Henry, Secretary

JOIN THE TEAM - If you want to become a member, please complete this form.

There will be paperwork to fill out, membership dues to pay and a meeting with a WRT member to go over the paperwork and then we can get you started!

Membership dues are \$30 for a year for a family or \$20 for a year for an individual. If you need help with anything - a rescue, supplies, advice, etc. - call our hotline!

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

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Hotline Phone: (402) 473-1951

Website: www.wildliferescueteamincne.org

Email contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org Find us on **Facebook** at Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc.

