



TAMARACK

WILDLIFE CENTER



VOLUME 24, NO. 2

FALL 2018

The Mission of TWC

Our mission is to help Pennsylvania wildlife by

- Caring for injured, orphaned or ill wildlife in order to enable their return to the wild.
- Promoting appreciation and understanding of wildlife through education.

Admissions

At present time Tamarack is able to admit birds of prey, adult songbirds, water birds, reptiles, and non-RVS mammal species at our Saegertown location. This is subject to change depending on caseload.

For more information call 814-763-2574.

Hours

Weekdays 10am-3pm by appointment.

Weekends and evening admissions by appointment.



Official registration and financial information of T.W.C. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within PA: 1.800.732.0999
Registration does not imply endorsement.

DOUBLING DOWN ON REHAB!



So far in 2018, we have admitted over twice as many patients as we did in the entire year, just two years ago! Over 800 patients have been admitted at our Saegertown center. It is all part of our plan to help more wildlife and the people who care about them.

After purchasing the center's site in 2016, our board of directors recognized additional staffing was needed to oversee care of patients and supervise volunteers. In January of this year, a Rehabilitation Manager was hired to assist our director and head rehabilitator Carol Holmgren. The plan worked! As a direct result, more patients have been able to be admitted, especially mammals.



TOP:
Young Eastern Cottontails;
TOP RIGHT CIRCLE:
Great Horned Owl;
LOWER RIGHT CIRCLE:
Pileated Woodpecker before release;
BOTTOM LEFT:
Wood turtle

Magnificent Mammals



So far in 2018, we have treated 185 Cottontail Rabbits, 207 Opossums, and nearly 50 squirrels and chipmunks, while maintaining excellence in care. In contrast, two years ago, 70 rabbits were treated, 65 opossums, and 7 squirrels because the center had to restrict admission of those species.



The Center retains its specialty in treatment of raptors (hawks, owls, eagles, falcons and vultures), and treats all raptors of all ages, but it is exciting to be able to help more of our area's wildlife.



A sampling of mammals treated and released.

TOP CENTER, CLOCKWISE:

Mink release!; Eastern Cottontails; Injured Opossum raising her young while in our care (two photos); Flying Squirrel getting special formula; Cottontail; Grey Squirrel; Red Squirrels; Mink enjoying formula and taking a nap (two photos).

Excellence with Eagles!

EQUINOX

Tamarack treats more eagles than any other Rehabilitation Center in the state due to its location in prime eagle habitat and reputation for excellent care. It is through the partnership of the hardworking, experienced Tamarack staff and the dedicated hands of the Game Commission that we can treat and release the country's most magnificent bird of prey. When Director Carol Holmgren began working for Tamarack in 2006, she saw two in a year. Now she treats as many as 15 in a single year due to the recovery of the population.

LUNA

Suffering from both a bacterial and a fungal infection of her feather follicles, Luna (named for her dark juvenile plumage) took almost a year to fully recover. It was worth the wait for her to become "feather perfect" and she was released Spring 2018.

STORM

A new family for Storm! Eagles are the best at raising other eagles, so after her nest was blown down, and she recovered from a broken leg, this big baby was given new parents and siblings!

STRONG HEART

Brought to Tamarack from Armstrong County for care, this emaciated nestling baby regained health, and learned to fly. She had a dramatic release at Racoon Creek State Park, in collaboration with the Game Commission.



LUNA



STORM



HOT SAUCE

EQUINOX

Life can be tough for a baby! Admitted on fall equinox, this first year juvenile came to us skinny and battling symptoms of West Nile Virus. Now she's fat and healthy and building up flight muscles for release!

HOT SAUCE

A saucy personality got this adult male through treatment for lead poisoning! Found near Grove City in Mercer County, he was returned to that area and his established territory.

SRIRACHA

A miraculous recovery! This big girl came in with near fatal levels of lead. Through several rounds of chelation she has successfully beaten lead poisoning and is on her way to release.



STRONG HEART



SRIRACHA

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Sarah Sargent, PhD, Board President

The busiest season of the year is behind us, and we are settling down into the quieter fall and winter, reflecting on all that has happened this year. Having a second full-time employee made a tremendous difference in our ability to handle more patients this year, and we are so grateful to all our supporters for the donations that allowed us to do this. We rely so much on volunteers- who are fabulous! - but coordinating the volunteers takes staff time, not to mention the importance of the training and expertise that a second licensed rehabilitator brings.

TWC's board and staff are very excited about making physical improvements to our facility next year, and we continue to work with our architect, Rob Humphries, to figure out the optimal combination of functionality, safety, and cost effectiveness, while also allowing ourselves to dream. We are imagining what an inspirational, modern, "state of the art" facility for both patient care and education would look like, and then plotting a course for TWC to get there. What would you like to see? Let me know! You can reach me at sarah@tamarackwildlife.org.

Once again, your support through Erie Gives Day, the Open House, and memberships, etc., has been wonderful. Your support is truly what allows us to do the work we do. We do not receive any state or federal government financial support. It's all you! We know we could do more with a bigger budget, as we proved this year with the additional staff time. Please be generous, if you are able, as we approach the end of the year, when many people make annual donations. And don't forget to include us in your estate planning, leaving a legacy gift supporting what you value. Call Jennifer in the office for more information. Thank you!

Erie Gives Day 2018 is a Fantastic Success!

Thank you to each of the 170 donors who contributed to Tamarack through Erie Gives Day! Including the pro-rated match, Tamarack received a wonderful \$16,242!

These gifts support our expanding wildlife rehabilitation and education work.

Save the date for next year's Erie Gives: Tuesday August 13, 2019.

Meet our Office Manager, Jennifer!

When you meet Jennifer Ferrick, you will find she is passionate, efficient, and articulate. We were blessed to have her join Tamarack as our office manager earlier this year. Tamarack's mission inspires Jennifer, and with a BS in Business Administration, her organizational skills and attention to detail are creating more efficient office processes for us. She values that Tamarack tends wildlife medically, contributes data to wildlife research, and does public education and outreach.

Jennifer has been fascinated with birds since age five, and that has led to her lifelong conservation efforts. In addition to her work with Tamarack, she contributes to scientific avian research with the goal of supporting effective conservation education. Over the past year, Jennifer has participated in gathering data for organizations including PA Audubon, Erie Bird Observatory, PA Goshawk Project, and Project Puffin. She recently accepted the position of Chair of Public Relations at Presque Isle Audubon Society.



You may recognize this smiling face! Laryssa Rote, longtime volunteer medic and educator, joins us as Rehabilitation Manager and licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator! Photos of Laryssa treating patients or giving programs have been featured in our newsletter multiple times, and she has met thousands of people while taking our ambassador raptors on programs.

No stranger to Tamarack, Laryssa interned at our center in 2014 as part of her degree program from Edinboro University, majoring in Writing with a minor in Biology. In 2015, she worked at the World Bird Sanctuary in Missouri, treating wildlife, training raptors and giving programs. She also trained animals at the Milwaukee Zoo. After returning to our area in 2016, she became our most experienced medic, proficient in treating patients ranging from powerful Bald Eagles, to delicate infant Cottontails.

With a particular passion for raptors and training, Laryssa is an apprentice falconer in her personal time, and uses her falconry skills to design training plans for our ambassadors to ensure they are comfortable and confident. She also helps Tamarack volunteers develop their skills working with wildlife.

With both Carol Holmgren and Laryssa as licensed rehabilitators, Tamarack will be able to continue admitting a wider selection of species.





Myrtle the Turtle is an Eastern Box turtle who was brought to Tamarack as a patient last spring with a fractured upper shell (called a carapace) and internal injuries due to a roadway accident. Because of the severity of her injuries, initially she retreated into her shell and needed to be fed by syringe. With time and treatment, she literally came out of her shell to show her personality. Staff and volunteers have fallen in love with her sassy, spirited attitude. Although we hoped to see her go free, Myrtle is not releasable because she was dropped off without information identifying where she was found.

Box Turtles typically live their entire adult lives within a home territory of 750 ft or less in diameter. If these turtles are not released in or near in their territory, they will search for it instead of making a new home. These long-lived terrapins, have a hinged shell so they can completely enclose

themselves in case of danger. Box turtles enjoy an extremely varied diet which can include wild berries, greens, earthworms, slugs and insects.

Because she cannot be released, Tamarack hoped she could be happy as an education ambassador. Myrtle showed an aptitude for education as she became increasingly friendly throughout her recovery. She even began running up to the volunteers to be nose to nose with them. Seeing her enthusiasm, we are obtaining permits from the Fish and Boat Commission for Myrtle to be an educational ambassador. Once permits are finalized we look forward to her going on educational programs to help spread awareness of her species. For now, we are happy to watch as she digs around her winter enclosure in search of a tasty snack or peeks out at us from under her log.

2019 Wildlife First Responders Course

Back by popular demand! Have you ever wished you'd known how to handle a wildlife emergency? A baby rabbit caught by a cat? A hawk hit by a car on a roadside? Ducklings stranded away from their mother? Our 2019 Wildlife First Responder class will be held Saturday, February 23 from 9am-4:00pm on the campus of Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. Tamarack's live ambassador raptors and opossum will be available for participants to meet during the class.

This course will teach you when to intervene and when not to, and how to capture, stabilize and transport injured wildlife to a rehabilitator. In addition to learning how to respond when

encountering wildlife in need, past participants have gone on to become phone helpline volunteers, transporters and onsite volunteers.

The course cost is \$40 and includes lunch.

Those wishing to volunteer answering phone calls on our helpline will receive a rebate of \$20 when they begin volunteering in that capacity following the course.

Registration information and forms are available at www.tamarackwildlife.org, or call the center at 814-763-2574. Previous participants are welcome to attend for a refresher at no cost if there is room (\$10 if having lunch), but should register. Early registration is recommended.

Thank you to all our members, on-site and helpline volunteers, educators, and medics for making this possible!

Thank you to our summer and fall helpers: Allegheny College Bonner leaders: Brittany Claassen, Nicholas Denardo, Catrina Steckler, and Jacob Walters. Allegheny College Students: George Ackerman, Candace Burkhammer, Arden Delphey, Alaina Duesel, Will Harrod, Graham Johnson. Volunteers: Katie Brozell, Martha Consla, Cathy Davis, Jennifer Ferrick, Allana Kinnear, Ryan Hamilton, Janelle Harrawood, Jenna Howells, Finley Neuburger, Larry Slomski, Stephanie Snyder, Leah Reibel, Marta Vandegrift, Reilly Walsh, Alex Walker, Dorothy Washok, and Isaac Wilbur.

Our fabulous Wildlife Helpline Volunteers, coordinated by Lynne Martin are: Patty Baldwin, Diann Bolharsky, Carol Brown, Christina Clark, Lynne Kasemer, Jim Fitch, Bob Hartman, Julie Hirt, Marc Johns, Nancy Kerr, Lynne Martin, Brian Pardini, Tammy Rodgers, Marcella Smith, and Sharon Wesoky. Substitutes are Cathy Davis, Rita Gannoe, and Jane Levin.

Summer into Fall at the Center

Carol Holmgren, Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator

Whew! It's been an exciting year! Over 800 patients have been admitted so far at our Saegertown location!

Today the air is crisp and leaves are falling, the patient caseload is slowing with the turning of the seasons, and we are filled with satisfying memories of those we have treated. With expanded mammal admissions, we recall orphaned squirrels suckling their specialized formula in round the clock feedings; a baby mink lying on it's back- relaxed with a full belly after a feeding; young rabbits becoming healthy and strong through specialized feedings; an infant possum held gently while threading a tube down to its stomach for a feeding (and 32 more opossums to go!); the thrill of releasing youngsters that have grown big. As the season turns to fall, the last of the baby rabbits have been released and we are arranging the release of our late summer orphaned opossum and squirrels.

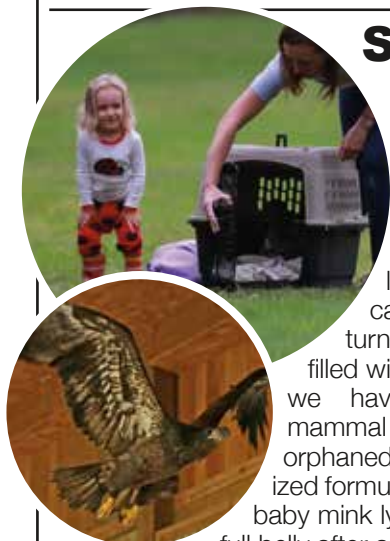
Our raptor admissions are slightly higher this year: 135 raptors have been treated, including a record 60 Red-tailed Hawks. The moist, wet weather of this summer led to larger mosquito numbers and four times the typical number were admitted with symptoms of West Nile Virus. Yesterday we had the pleasure of releasing one of the hawks that recovered,

and seeing him take to the skies where he belongs. A big, female Great Horned Owl recovering from West Nile Symptoms will be ready to go soon.

Three eagles are currently in treatment: an adult male, a young adult female and a youngster now learning to fly. They are talkative and gaining strength in our eagle aviary. Happily, all three are on the road to release. The adults, doing laps and reaching the highest perches, seem to encourage the young bird.

Our ambassador wildlife are reaching record numbers of people. With the help of our outstanding volunteer educators and staff, we reached 9,500 people in our programs in the past twelve months! Wow!

This year our licensed songbird specialist in North East, Gina Kron, was not able to admit many patients, due to her work schedule, but she hopes to resume more treatment in 2019. Emily Garrigan, who started the year as Rehab Manager, felt the call to be closer to her family in Eastern PA and resigned at the end of the summer. We wish her the best, and are excited to welcome licensed rehabilitator Laryssa Rote to the team. With your help, we look forward to another year of growth in the year to come!



Honorarium

In Honor Of

Nick Swartzfager achieving Eagle Scout Rank - Carol Wood
My sister, Imogene - Capt. William Yetman & Deborah Larsen
Denise Hudson - Dale Hunter, Colleen & Richard Devore
Denise Hudson's first birthday - Rebecca Okel

In Memoriam

In Memory Of

Lee Ann Reiners, for her love and dedication to wildlife and nature - Paul Burroughs
Lee Ann Reiners - Ginger & Steve Bollinger, Shaler High School Class of 1968 & the Reunion Committee, Judy (Gesey) Guild (Shaler Class of 1964) & Howard Guild, Paul Gesey (Shaler Class of 1965) & Pam Talcot, Sue & John Hennip, Glen Kubach, Jeffrey Karchut & family, Deborah Green, Joan & Ray Dengel, Ruth Swaney, Master Gardeners of Crawford County
Lee Ann's love of nature and wildlife - Regis & Mari Ann Mikach,
Our sister, Lee Ann - Bob & Dorothy Reiners
Our Life Member, Lee Ann Reiners - American Legion Unit 381 Auxillary
Lee Ann Reiners, who was a member for over 40 years and had loved the outdoors, forests, water & wildlife - Allegheny Canoe Club
Frank G. Leonheart - Joan B. Leonheart
Ron Finch - Don Snyder & Amy Snyder
Emil Cehovin - Margaret Glance & family and Kimberly & James Dustafson
Kathy who loved Eagles - Edward Henschel
My mother, Katherine - Susan Henschel
My friend, Marcia Dibbern - Carol McFadden and Ann Schelbe
Marcia Dibbern - Carol & Keith Dibbern and Diane Welebit & Robert Waite
My dear friend, Lois Hlava Barber - Cathy Hutchison
Colleen Griffin - Mary Tellers
Colleen Daugherty Zeller Griffin - Mr. Kevin J. Powers
Robert E. Sindelar - Tamarack Wildlife Center, Rick Wyman and Lady Hawk

To make a contribution in honor or memory of someone, donations can be made online or mailed to: TWC, 21601 Stull Rd, Saegertown, PA 16433. Be sure to include: whether this is in honor or memory; name/address for TWC to send acknowledgment; your (donor) name/address.
All members and contributors (except those desiring to be anonymous) will be listed in an annual report and are therefore not included in this newsletter.

Spring 2018 In-Kind Contributors

- Alan Goodman
- Alan Johnson
- Animal Friends Cremation
- Because You Care
- Bill Bramble
- Chris, Sam & Jesse Green
- Cinda Murry
- Diann & Bob Vogel
- Dr. Lindstrom of Animal Clinic Northview
- Drs. Consla, Stanton and Waid of Conneaut Lake Veterinary Hospital
- Dr. Ramey of Animal Kingdom Pet Hospital
- Erie Area Rabbit Society (EARS)
- Erie Zoo
- Finley Neuburger
- H & H Supermarket
- Harborcreek Walmart
- Heather Weaver
- Jack & Ellen Anon
- Janelle Harrawood
- Jerry Kutz
- Knock Design Inc.: Shannan & Leigh Lynes
- Larry & Linda Slomski
- Linda & Bob Gleeson
- Linda Quiring
- Lynne Kasemer
- MegaGrafix
- Melanie Tepper
- Michelle & Steve Curtze
- Renee Rice
- Ridge Road Taxidermy
- Saegertown Archery Club
- Sam's Club
- Seneca Rocks Audubon Society
- Shannon Hemphill
- Tim & Connie Ryan
- Union City High School
- Wildlife Rescue Nests
- Wyman Family

*If we neglected to include you - please let us know!
We appreciate all our supporters and do our best to remember you all.*

Wish List



Nestling American Kestrels, raised at the Center and released.

- Paper Towels
- Bleach
- Dawn Dish Detergent
- Liquid laundry detergent for High Efficiency Machines (HE)
- Trash bags, 30 gallon
- Forever Stamps
- Cohesive Bandage, 2"
- Fresh fruit/veggies/greens (call to verify what is needed)
- Nuts in the shell
- Antlers/antler pieces
- Flat Sheets (clean, used), Pillow cases
- Puppy pads
- Surgical drape (unused from hospital surgeries)
- Sterile Saline or Lactated Ringers (IV bags)
- Wood Pine or Ash shavings for bedding (not cedar)
- Gently used stuffed animals to adapt and reuse for ambassador and patient wildlife enrichment



Bluebirds raised from nestling by Tamarack's songbird specialist, Gina Kron

Look up Tamarack Wildlife Center's wish list on [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) for more great ideas!

Sponsorships Make Great Gifts!

You can give a sponsorship of an ambassador for \$25.00 per year. Sponsors receive a certificate of sponsorship, a 5x7 photograph and a brochure about the ambassador they are sponsoring.

Sponsorship funds help us provide food and medical care for these special ambassadors.

Indicate which ambassador(s) you would like to sponsor and whether this is a gift.

Send this form, along with a check for \$25 per animal per year to:

TWC, 21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lady Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Jasper, Eastern Screech Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jedi, Merlin Falcon | <input type="checkbox"/> Alice, Cooper's Hawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sophia, Barred Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Apollo, Peregrine Falcon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prudence, Virginia Opossum | |

*Prudence,
Virginia
Opossum*



Name of Sponsor: _____ Gift Recipient's Name: _____

Address of Sponsor: _____ Gift Recipient's Address: _____

TAMARACK

WILDLIFE CENTER

(814) 763-2574
www.TAMARACKWILDLIFE.org
21601 Stull Road Saegertown, PA 16433



NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAEGERTOWN, PA
PERMIT NO. 46

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Consider A
Year-End
Donation!**



**Fall 2018
Newsletter**



Yes! I want to help wildlife!

Become a member of TWC and help wildlife. Members receive two newsletters per year and are invited to our annual open house. Your donations are tax deductible and give you the satisfaction of helping our native wildlife. If your membership is not up for renewal but you wish to provide extra financial support, your additional donation or memorial contribution is always welcome.

Send contributions to:

**Tamarack Wildlife Center
21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433**

Annual Membership:

- ☐ Individual/Chickadee.....\$20-29
- ☐ Family/Kestrel.....\$30-99
- ☐ Great Horned Owl.....\$100-499
- ☐ Peregrine.....\$500-999
- ☐ Golden Eagle.....\$1000 or more
- ☐ Other Amount.....\$_____

I'd like to receive
the newsletter via:

☐ Mail ☐ E-Mail

(If e-mail,
please list below)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

All Contributions are Tax Deductible!

If your address label is incorrect,
please let us know.

T.W.C.'s

Executive Director.....Carol Holmgren
Director Emerita.....Suzanne DeArment

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board President.....Sarah Sargent
Vice President.....Rick Wyman
Treasurer.....Sarah Sargent
Secretary.....Christian Hrinda
Board Member.....Bob Hartman
Board Member.....Sharon Wesoky
Board Member.....Delores Tavares
Office Manager
Jennifer Ferrick

WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS

Carol Holmgren, Gina Kron, Laryssa Rote

WILDLIFE REHAB MANAGER

Laryssa Rote

SPONSORING VETERINARIANS

Dr. Ramey, Animal Ark
Dr. Consla, Conneaut Lake Vet Hosp.

WILDLIFE REHAB ASSISTANTS

Janelle Harrawood, Sarah Sargent,
Ben Haywood, Stephanie Snyder,
Dawn Decrease

WILDLIFE EDUCATORS

Cathy Davis, Daniele Moffat,
Linda Gleeson, Richard Wyman,
Terrie Swanson, Janelle Harrawood

WEBMASTER

Shannan Lynes