



Comings and Goings 2005

The icy storms of early spring brought a different start to our usually busy season. It began slowly this year with fewer gray squirrels and late arrivals for several other species. Lucky for us we assumed that Mother Nature would make the necessary adjustments and sure enough, before long we were working at our usual feverish pitch!

Every year is different and unpredictable at Woodlands Wildlife Refuge and each brings its own surprises and stories. This year we worked with many more adult animals than usual during the "baby season". So, along side the infant squirrels,

opossums, raccoons, skunks, woodchucks, etc. were their adult counterparts. This was an unexpected opportunity to learn about and see the natural development of several species. Some of these adults brought us surprises of their own! The most notable were an opossum and a skunk that arrived with injuries and while in our care gave birth! Thus came the phrase: "Welcome to Woodlands Wildlife Refuge Spa and Maternity Ward". We are happy to say that all were successfully released. Having that experience and being witness to these incredible Mothers was the best thank you we could ever dream of.

The usual happenings at Woodlands included the intake of a myriad of species to care for and release, new volunteers, new staff, cage building and final renovation work. Throughout the busiest part of the season volunteers and staff gave the best care

and kindness to all types of mammals and reptiles. This included a surprise but brief visit by a Copperhead! This was an amazing chance and we appreciated the opportunity.

We had our share of miracles this year, too. Coyotes, raccoons, foxes, and woodchucks that arrived broken by substantial injuries or near death by illnesses that recuperated and were released. Look for their amazing stories in this publication.

Throughout the fall we made up for the slow start of the season with a huge number of infant squirrel and rabbit arrivals as well as very late raccoon infants that will stay the winter.

As we wind down another unusual and very busy year with the last of the releases, we once again experience the bitter sweet of the work we do. We are already planning for next year by asking; how can we do it better, what needs to be changed, what more can we do, etc? We will always be committed to growing and learning and striving to do the best that we can.

As Woodlands Wildlife Refuge looks forward to celebrating its 20th Anniversary we would like to thank all of you for taking the time to care about your wild neighbors. 🐾 ***We wish you all very happy holidays and a great New Year!***

Photo: Melissa Stegens



Skunk babies.



Photo: Tracy Leaver

Boo, too released.

Very Special Thank You's

For their extraordinary and generous help with our most critically injured animals. Thank you for being part of this year's miracles.

Dr. Felecia Niebojeski and Staff of the Animal Hospital of Clinton-Perryville
Dr. Eric Glass and Garrett Davis of the Red Bank Veterinary Hospital

- Morris Plains Veterinary Hospital
- Woodlands Wildlife Refuge's incredibly generous volunteers and Board of Directors for their support and gift of time!
- Melissa Stegens - for her astonishingly generous gift of time.
- Glen Summit Nursery for their incredible generosity and being great neighbors!
- The Woodlands Wildlife Refuge's Response Team for their efforts above and beyond all expectations.
- Emily Stanton for honoring Woodlands by including us in her Mitzvah Project and making such a generous donation.
- Alex Stegens for building yet more animal enclosures.
- Anderson's Cleaning Service for our wonderful floors!
- Wendy Mellinger- Zweifel of Photographic Artistry for the wonderful Mardi Gras pictures!
- Daniel Kachmar for sharing his 5th birthday with us by asking that donations be sent to Grace the bear in lieu of birthday gifts and to his many friends and relatives who did just that.
- Hampton Flooring for helping with the carpet in our new Education Room.

"We abuse the land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."

- Aldo Leopold



From the Director

Woodlands will celebrate its 20th Anniversary in 2006! This is hard for me to believe as it has all gone by so quickly. We have come from caring for 2 raccoons to caring for almost 500 mammals and reptiles annually. It is incredible to have grown from my back room and garage on 1-½ acres to the ground floor of a large barn on several acres!



It astonishes me that while doing this work and running another successful business, I discovered my life's calling and had the courage to make significant changes that allowed me to do it. It is rewarding that Woodlands has always risen to the challenges and is now an organization known and respected for its work with black bears and bobcats as well as many other mammal and reptile species.

It is heart-warming to think of the many faces of volunteers that have passed through Woodlands. Some are still with us as long as 12 or 13 years! Some have started families (future volunteers!) and some have gone on to college and jobs. This tireless group of people who give the gift of time are the backbone of the work we do.

I am proud of who we are and that Woodlands has been given so much support and direction. I am proud that we have been bold enough to walk through doors that have opened and recognized opportunities that continue to move us forward. I am proud that we know that doing the right thing is not always easy but we will do it anyway.

I am thankful for Woodlands' Board of Directors both present and past. It is because of these dedicated people that we have remained committed to continued growth.

It is remarkable to have created and settled into our new facility and that everything has been accomplished through the generosity of others. On behalf of all of us at Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, I thank you deeply and sincerely for the unfaltering support you have given us over the years. Without you we could not be. 🐾

Sincerely, **Tracy Leaver, Executive Director**

PS. We invite you to step into our future with us.

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge is committed to continued growth to meet the needs of our communities and wildlife. For the past three years we have concentrated on creating our new facility and education area. In keeping with our mission, this allows us to work with more animals in need and provide more education. With this project completed we are now concentrating on securing Woodlands well into the future. We want to be here for the next 20 years and then another 20 after that! Please take the time to read our special insert for details and we hope that you will join us in this effort.

Coyote Ugly

On July 3rd, this cliché took on literal meaning. The arrival of four, emaciated, dehydrated and mangy, 12-week-old coyote pups sent the volunteers scrambling! These poor pups needed help and they needed it fast. Housing was set up, medications, food and fluids were given as quickly as possible so they could get settled into their strange new environment. These young coyotes, part of a litter of seven were left to fend for themselves after someone shot their mother.



Sick coyote pups.

A local animal control officer worked diligently to round up the entire litter but was unable to trap the remaining three. The four that came to us were lucky and at least had a chance of survival.

The following day found one of the pups was failing and much effort was spent administering supportive care. Unfortunately, our efforts were not enough. This little pup had suffered so badly and was so physically wasted that a turn around was just not possible. The following few days found the remaining three fairing pretty well. Caring for three very scared, wild, sick and frantic coyotes at once is quite a challenge! The better they felt the harder it was to care for them. Weekly shots had to be given as well as daily feeding and cleaning and because of the mange they were kept in isolation for the first few weeks. The efforts were paying off however, and they slowly sloughed off dead skin and fur and began to grow brand new coats. Their eyes brightened, their color improved and appetites returned to normal.

As soon as the three much healthier pups were about to be moved outside they gave us yet another extreme challenge: overnight they had destroyed their cage the floor grates were tossed in awkward positions. The coyotes had to be outside now. As they were gathered up it was apparent that one of them had broken a front leg. This was very bad news and subsequent x-rays made it even more distressing. According to our vet, Dr. Niebojeski at the Clinton-Perryville Animal Hospital, the break was severe and needed orthopedic surgery. Once again, we called on our friends at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital and once again Dr. Glass and Dr. Davis welcomed the opportunity to help a wild creature. Two days later we brought the pup home with the break pinned, wire wrapped and the incision glued. The unfortunate thing was that he had to stay in close quarters to heal for several weeks while his littermates had been moved to outside caging to acclimate for release. It was almost back to square one for one of them. All of these pups were growing into the handsome animals that coyotes really are and the day to reunite them could not come soon enough. The pup with the broken leg was finally moved out with the others. The reunion was complete with lots of whining and sniffing and following each other around and within minutes the three were like glue once again. All that was needed now was time for that leg to get strong.

On a beautiful and typical fall day in mid-October all three of these magnificent (finally!) creatures were set free once again. It was unforgettable to watch them disappear, as coyotes do so well, into the overgrown field. 🐾

Thank You for Funding

Great thanks go to the following Grantors and corporations for their constant support and kind words.

Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
Elinor Baker Patterson Foundation
The Landsberger Foundation
Taussig Foundation
New York Life Foundation
AT&T Cares
Wal-Mart
The E. D. Foundation
Waterman Foundation

Thank You! Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to those who responded so generously to our appeals and press, attended Mardi Gras, became sponsors, donated food and other items, took part in Pieces and Parts and gave words of praise and kindness. Thank you for the support you have given Woodlands in any way and for caring about wildlife.

Special mention:

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Country Pet, Wal-Mart, High Bridge Printing and Graphics, and everyone at Merrill Creek Reservoir.

Woodlands would also like to thank the Hunterdon County S.P.C.A., Somerset County Regional Animal Shelter, Franklin Township Animal Control Officers, St. Hubert's, Betty and Gary Wysocki, and all other Animal Control Officers who have taken the time to help rescue so many of the orphaned and injured wild animals that come to our facility.



Coyotes ready for release.

In Honor of

Dr. Leo W. Egar - Valerie Egar

Robert Butler - Peggy Barabas

All the Chincoteague Ponies - Bonnie L. Seeley

Windy and Daisy Chain - Bonnie L. Seeley

In Memory of

Paul Swallow - Delores Leggio

Ralph Bleck

Frank and Joan Hooper

Tracy and Jeff Leaver

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge

Bob Kaplan - Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Kaplan

Chester E. & Ruth E. Piell

Erma Bodine & Grace Kocher

Marybeth Thompson

Maggie Linzer & Patty Guilfoyle

Eleanor (Reper) Reading - William Reading

Hope Forsyth Guerin - Jean Forsyth

Watchout - Tracy Leaver

Angel Kody - Cindy Ostergaard Hughes

Rog - Tracy Leaver

Scooter - The Dabal Family

Fluffy - The Reyle's

Porsha - Kathy Ornstein

Ding Dong - The Vichnevetsky's

Corky - Linda & Rick Newport

Volunteering - We Always Need You!

Are you interested in finding out more about volunteering? It's simple! Just check the "Volunteer Info" box on our Sponsorship Form and send it in, or call us and leave your name and address. In late winter we will send you all the information you need about volunteering at Woodlands. We do our best to make it possible for even those with the busiest schedules! We would love to have you join our volunteer staff!

2005 Active Woodlands Volunteers

Annandale

Delores Leggio

Ed LeGrande

Morgan Karol

Asbury

Lynn Pizzullo*

Alex Stegens

Melissa Stegens*

Bedminster

Karen Wentz

Bloomsbury

Bruce Vakenier

Kate Vakenier

Jonetta Williams

Branchburg

Cassie Ostroski

Barbara Karsenty

Califon

Dana Perez

Clinton

Elise Evans

Tara Burns

Easton

Crissi Lutz

Jackie Cortright

Flemington

Alice Horner

Gail Maloney

Heather McCourt

Karen Bowker

Larry Potter

Glen Gardner

Debbie Rein

Hampton

Dan Shea

Grace Smarsh

Iselin

Catherine Chou

Milford

Alice Eaton

Christine Murray

Diane Dotsko

Linda Kiesel

Neshanic Station

Robbie Regan

Tracy Casey

Oxford

John Bernaski

Phillipsburg

Laura Dennis

Pittstown

Joan Ausmann

Bob Edwards

Lynne Lauck

Raritan

Jill Apsley

Sparta

Joanne Watkins*

Three Bridges

Ellen Wexler*+

Upper Black Eddy

Angelique Keone

Warren

Brian Cooke

Washington

David Hawke

Monica Blackwell

Whitehouse Station

April Anderson

Kevin Anderson

Suzanne Anderson

Chelsea Casella

Lila Whitely

* *Response Team Member*

+ *Volunteer Coordinator*

2005 Woodlands Board of Directors

Tracy Leaver

Deb Weyman

Tom Czirok

Karen Bowker

Joan Ausmann

David Henley

Barbara Edwards

Catherine Chou

Melissa Stegens

Al Rylak

Tracy Leaver

Executive Director

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Attorney

Refuge Director



Mom and baby opossum.

Photo: Melissa Stegens



iGIVE

L.L. Bean!

PETsMART!

Eddie Bauer!

1-800-Flowers!

Lands End!

Barnes & Noble!

You Can HELP Woodlands Earn Extra Dollars When You Shop Online!

How?

Through **www.igive.com**. It's easy and free. Just visit, register and select **Woodlands Wildlife Refuge** as your charity.

Then shop online from hundreds of stores listed on their website.

A percentage of your purchases will be donated to Woodlands!

For more information and a complete list of participating stores please visit **www.igive.com** and register today! Happy shopping and thanks!

Words from the Volunteers

The miracle Raccoon in cage SS1 is a raccoon that came in with hyperthermia (heat stroke) and was so dehydrated it could not lift its head. Because of the dedicated volunteers dribbling water and eventually food into this totally debilitated animal, this raccoon eventually recovered and was released. And of course, there was the Woodlands Wildlife Refuge maternity ward. Ellen discovered the skunks had multiplied during the shift, and I discovered that the opossum had "snuck" in 5 extra little mouths to feed

There were three little raccoons with injuries from the tree cutting, the one little female raccoon that came in so dehydrated, covered in some sort of sticky material, that through the patience of the volunteers quickly gained weight, did well and was eventually released.

Lady Jane got her own pool this year--and really enjoyed it

Thanks,

Suzanne

This was my first year volunteering at Woodlands and it was amazing. To see NJ's wildlife up close know that you're doing your part to get them back to where they belong is the most rewarding thing that I've ever done. From the "keepers" like the gentle "Grace" the bear to the playful "Lady Jane" and our skunks "Grandpa" and "Wednesday". At times it seemed like the baby squirrels, bunnies and opossums would never stop coming. Beautiful red foxes, feisty woodchucks and the many little "masked bandits". To see the 3 little "mangy" coyotes turn into the beautiful creatures they are today leaves me speechless. The "surprise" of Mom opossum's babies sure kept us on our toes. Too hold, feed and care for these amazing creatures gives you such an appreciation for all of God's creatures and their place in this world. I look forward to more of the same. - **Laura Dennis**

Ways to Support Us

- Individual donations *of any amount*. Every penny helps. While we receive some financial help from grants, the majority of our support comes from individual giving!
- Sponsorships - See last page.
- Respond to our "Baby Shower"(a favorite!) and Holiday appeals, 50/50, Pieces and Parts.
- Join us at our fundraisers! Mardi Gras is coming!
- United Way. Our Agency # is 065328.
- Our FID is 223053310.
- Employer matching gifts.
- Memorials or Honors.
- Monthly or other regular giving.
- Grants
- Endowment and bequests.
- Donations of goods (see our wish list)
- Donations of services.

As always your donations are tax-deductible.

Endowments

There are a number of ways that permit you to make a significant gift to Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, Inc. without jeopardizing your ability to meet current and future obligations. These things have one thing in common - you need a will to implement them. The will is the foundation of testamentary charitable planning; indeed, it is the basis of estate planning in general.

Why should you tell us that you made, or are thinking of making, a provision in your will to benefit Woodlands Wildlife Refuge?

- We want to ensure that your wishes are followed.
- We would like to plan for the future of the Refuge.
- Most of all we would like to thank you for your forethought and generosity in securing the future of the Refuge.

If you are considering making a bequest, or have included the Refuge in your will, please let us know of your intentions.

If you would like more information about how to use your will to accomplish charitable and family objectives, please call Tracy Leaver at (908) 730-8300.

Auction Requests

Mardi Gras is our most important fundraising event, and will be held March 4th, 2006. Each year we strive to make it better. In this effort we are looking for donations of high quality items for our live and silent auctions. If you are interested in donating items for this event please call or write to us. We will be happy to answer any questions. The following are some examples of items we are looking for but feel free to use your own imagination:

- Trips, vacations, plane fare, time shares
- Cars, motorcycles, bikes, boats, canoes, kayaks
- Art, collectibles, antiques, furniture, jewelry
- Theater tickets, sports tickets, sports equipment
- Crystal, silver, gold...
- Services, certificates, memberships, etc.

Mardi Gras Sponsor Requests

We would love to have you as a Main Event Sponsor for our 9th Annual Mardi Gras. This is the biggest moneymaker for Woodlands. We are very lucky to have some generous sponsors and donors to bring down the event costs. We keep trying to get those costs down even more! This means more money for animal care! Please consider promoting your business in this special way. Main event sponsorship categories for this coming Mardi Gras are: \$2500, \$1500 and \$1000. Simply note on your check that you want your donation used in this way. In return your name and or business will be displayed (optional) clearly at our event. Your generosity will be deeply appreciated.

Buy an ad in our Mardi Gras 2006 program:

Friends of Woodlands (one liners)	- \$5
Business Card size	- \$25
Quarter page (4¼" x 5½")	- \$50
Half page (8½" x 5½")	- \$125
Full page (8½" x 11")	- \$175

Send payment with camera-ready artwork or business card.



Auctions...

*Come join us!
Dinner, Dancing
Just pure fun!*

Mardi Gras
Save the Date!
SATURDAY
MARCH 4th, 2006



Dancing...

Photo: Photographic Artistry

**Mark Your
Calendars!**

Photo: Photographic Artistry



Costumes (?) ...



Fun!

Photo: Photographic Artistry

Our **9th Annual Mardi Gras** FUNdraiser evening will be held on **SATURDAY MARCH 4th, 2006**. Your personal invitation will arrive in January with all the fun details but, save the date now! This event will once again be held at the **Hunterdon Hills Playhouse**. Included in the evening will be **dinner, silent and live auctions, costume contest, raffles, dancing to live music** and whatever else we can come up with to spice up the night! This event has been great fun and a huge success for Woodlands Wildlife Refuge. We look forward to seeing you there and be sure to bring your friends!!

Save the Date - Saturday March 4th, 2006

Words from the Volunteers

Miracles:

I have been a volunteer for many years at Woodlands and have seen and enjoyed caring for many different animals. Each year I always wonder what the next season will bring as far as different animals and different babies we would have. This year I saw many Miracles. There have always been miracles here, but this year really touched my heart. A skunk and an opossum that came in and both gave birth, a raccoon that when she came in could hardly hold her head up and we fed her by holding a dish for her to drink formula. Overtime this animal improved greatly and was eating on her own. The wonderful day came when she was released. A woodchuck that we syringe fed and now eating on his own, 3 baby raccoons came after a chain saw went through their nest. They are now waiting their release. These are the Miracles and wonders that make me feel proud to be a part of Woodland's Wildlife Refuge. - **Jackie Cortright**

My Time at Woodlands Wildlife Refuge

Although this is only my first year working here at Woodlands, I have learned so much and have experienced more than I ever expected. When I first began working hands on with the animals, I felt a little overwhelmed with all that I had to know and learn, but thankfully I was able to work with really great people who helped me along the way. The time I have spent here has been filled with noises, smells, and experiences that only volunteers at Woodlands can understand.

I am proud to say that I have been a part of the tireless and seemingly endless process of caring for and feeding the animals. There is nothing else like knowing that you have been able to help save an animal's life, or make them feel better when they are injured. During one of my shifts, I was even able to see baby skunks only minutes after they were born- an unexpected surprise from one of the intakes. Unfortunately, while there is time for the beginning of new life, there is also time for death, and it's during these times you understand how helpless the animals are without you. After all the these emotional experiences, there is nothing like the feeling when you see the empty cages and empty rooms, and know that you have been part of their release into the wild. - **Dana Perez**

Maternity Ward

While doing a cage check one Sunday I heard a strange peeping sound and got a major surprise. Where there had been one adult skunk for several months, there were now a mother and 3 "just born" infants! She never let on that she was expecting and just did what was natural when the time came. And so for a few months more, we took care of her as she took care of her young. And the best part is that mother and young were released together. - **ELW**

Woodlands on the Web!

Come visit us at:

www.woodlandswildlife.org



Special Announcements

A heartfelt and sincere thank you goes out to our Anonymous Donor from Woodlands' Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and every animal we care for. Your incredible and on-going generosity keeps our hopes and dreams fueled and our vision clear as we continue to grow.

We are happy to announce that Ellen Wexler has been hired as the Volunteer Coordinator. This is a part time position and Ellen is now the second staff person at Woodlands.

New Jersey is Still Wild

Please take the time to learn about your wild neighbors. Encourage your children to do the same. Learn about the habits and habitats of the local wildlife and begin to understand these creatures you share space with. It is amazing that New Jersey still has such wildlife and habitat diversity. This should be respected, appreciated and preserved.

Great Gift Ideas

- A Sponsorship in someone's name
- A Donation in honor of someone
- Take part in our Pieces and Parts in honor of someone - see information on last page.
- Bring or send someone to our Mardi Gras to celebrate a special day!
- Information about all of these great gift ideas can be found in this publication!

Congratulations!

To our 2004 50/50 Winners:

Bonnie Seeley and Debbie Rymon

Congrats to our Volunteers:

Elyse and CJ

on the birth of their daughter Kailey

Crissi and Jim

on the birth of their daughter Kinsey Moon

Facility Update

Photo: Tracy Leaver



Education Room under construction.

For the past three years, Woodlands has been in a constant state of renovation. The first project was the main treatment or hospital area, then the creation of the new office. We are so happy to inform you that our latest project - the education room, is complete! This brings an end to an incredible undertaking that has resulted in a fabulous new home for Woodlands Wildlife Refuge. Our new facility is only possible because of our many generous supporters and grantors. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for every little or large bit you may have contributed along the way. We are now better equipped to continue to meet the needs of our human and wildlife communities.

What are we doing now? In keeping with our mission we will continue to provide quality care to orphaned and injured wild animals and keep promoting understanding of those animals through our education programs. This is our daily work. Our bigger effort will be working to ensure that Woodlands will be around for many, many years to come. This is an exciting time of growth for us and we ask for your continued support. Please take the time to read our special insert for more information on our new incentive.



Photo: Tracy Leaver

Outside completed Education Room.



Animal Updates

Beaver - Her original finder, in almost the same place that she was found injured, spotted the little 2-pound beaver we released last year. This time she was healthy and estimated to be around 30 pounds!

The Girl - Once again, we are happy to report that this wonderful bear is doing well! Her den check in March surprised everyone when it was found she had 4 cubs this year! The Girl was released in 2000 and will be 7 in 2006. She has been a model wild bear.



Photo: Melissa Stegens

Bobcat prior to release.

Bobcat - The scrawny little bobcat we wrote about in the last edition was successfully released at a healthy and beautiful 11-1/2 pounds!

Grace - Our resident bear. She is doing fine and living comfortably. At almost 4 years old she is beautiful with her mature coat as she readies for winter.

Photo: Tracy Leaver



Boo, too Released.

Boo, too - This bear acquired the name in memory of the unforgettable Boo Boo bear in the previous edition. More fortunate but in the spirit of his namesake, Boo, too was successfully released earlier this year at a whopping 170 pounds!



Photo: Patti Watson

Grace relaxing.

We don't try to name the animals we care for but from time to time they simply acquire them. 🐾

Wish List

Funds

Any amount

Animal Food

**Nutro, Iams or Science Diet
in cans and dry (in bags):**

Puppy

Adult Dog

Kitten

Adult Cat

Pedialyte

Rodent Blocks

Animal Care

Bath towels (no holes or frays)

Receiving blankets (no holes or frays)

Rubber gloves (all sizes)

Bleach (regular)

Dish soap

Hand soap

Paper towels

Tissues

Garbage bags (tall kitchen, trash,
and contractor)

Educational Items Wanted

As we plan for our new education room we are looking for items of use. These could be:

Books on NJ wildlife

Mounts of NJ Wildlife (in good shape please)

Photos of NJ Wildlife

Paintings, drawings, etc. of NJ wildlife

NJ Wildlife Artifacts

Please let us know if you would like to donate any of these types of things to our education room!

Helpful links:

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge - www.woodlandswildlife.org

Bat Conservation International - www.batcon.org

The Raptor Trust - www.theraptortrust.org

Bear Education and Resource group - www.savenjbears.com

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife - www.njfishandwildlife.com

Medical Supplies

Latex exam gloves (**all sizes**)

3,6,10,20 cc syringes

22g needles

Fr. Feeding Tubes (catheters) 3½, 5

Gauze pads

Non Stick Pads

Medical Tape

Miscellaneous

Sand

¾ Inch stone

Roll roofing

Office

Office copy machine (with collator.)

Copy/print paper

Black and white (hp45) and

Color ink cartridges (hp78)

HP LaserJet Cartridge (15A)

If Only...

Funds, funds, funds...

Release Site Program

Woodlands is in search of release sites. As you can imagine, the continued loss of habitat makes this more difficult each year. We pride ourselves on giving our successfully rehabilitated animals the best possible second chance. Each species has certain requirements and in some cases supplemental feeding needs to be provided. Providing a safe place to release wild animals can be very rewarding. You will help to give them the second chance they deserve.

If you are interested in our release program please send us a description of your property and the surrounding area. Include acreage (yours), surrounding acreage that is not built up, farmland, meadow, wooded, mixed, tree types, wildlife observed, water sources, is existing undergrowth heavy or sparse. Is there construction planned in the near future? What recreational activities are there such as hunting (for which species), fishing, trapping, dirt bikes, snowmobiles, etc. that occur on your land or the surrounding area? Please include any information that will give us a clear idea of what your property and the immediate areas are like.

We would love to consider your land for a possible release site. We will look over all responses and contact you as needed to go over details. Thank you for your consideration of this program.

Thanks to those who already participate and have given wonderful homes to our rehabilitated wild neighbors.

Woodlands in the Media!

Thank you Star Ledger, Hunterdon County Democrat, The Hunterdon Review, Courier News and the Express Times for your interest in Woodlands and for publishing our press releases. Your support of the work we do is greatly appreciated.

Thanks also to:

Tom Phillips for including information about our black bear rehabilitation program in his documentary "Bears: Too Close for Comfort". This was aired recently on NJN.

Photo: Tracy Leaver



One of many educational programs.

What to do if:

You find an "orphaned" wild animal:

Don't rush! - It may not be orphaned at all. Wild young must go out and about with mom in order to learn how to make it on their own.

Mom may not be in sight when you come along.

Observe and think! - Gather as much information as possible about the animal. What kind is it? What size is it? Is there blood or flies? Is it moving? Are the eyes open? Is it making noises? Is it plump and round or scrawny and thin?

Leave the area... - If there are no apparent injuries leave the area for a while. This will give you a chance to call for advice and it will give the wild mom a chance to retrieve her young.

Return. - With the advice you have been given, you can now safely do what is best for both the animal and yourself.

Species Counts Year '05

10	Bat - Big Brown	73	Raccoon
1	Bat - Hoary	4	Rat
1	Bat - Red	3	Shrew
1	Beaver	1	Snake - Copperhead
10	Chipmunk	21	Skunk
4	Coyote	82	Squirrel - Gray
3	Deer	2	Squirrel - Red
2	Fox - Red	5	Turtle - Box
1	Mouse	1	Turtle - Painted
55	Opossum	2	Turtle - Snapping
165	Rabbit	13	Woodchuck

Count as of November 1st 2005.



Photo: Melissa Stegens

Northern Copperhead.

New Incentive!

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge has worked hard for almost 20 years towards a vision of growth, constant improvement and success in the rehabilitation and release of New Jersey's orphaned and injured wildlife. In the past we have struggled to simply feed and house the animals we care for. As you know we have consistently reached for better. We are happy to say that we are at a point where we now look to developing our financial future and business plan so that our vision will be established well into the future. Please see our special insert in this edition to find out how you can help!



Injured raccoon baby.



Orphan woodchuck baby.

Photos: Melissa Stegens

By the Spirit of the Wild, Good People and the Grace of God

This is the only way some animals recover from incredible odds. A great example of this is an adult raccoon that came to us this year. Apparently struck by a car he had been lying on the side of a busy road for several hours. His rescuer, a kind and caring woman came upon him in the late morning on one of the hottest days of summer. With the help of a local businessman who loaned her heavy gloves and gave her directions, she made her way to Woodlands. This poor raccoon arrived in severe condition with a broken jaw, several broken teeth, a concussion and was severely hyperthermic and unconscious. There wasn't much that wasn't wrong or hurt. After all possible treatment was given by caring volunteers only time was left and it would turn out to be the best

medicine. Bit by bit this raccoon slowly recovered and every day brought yet another improvement. Because of the Spirit of the Wild, Good People and the Grace of God this raccoon



Photo: Tracy Leaver

Raccoon release.

was successfully released several weeks later. 🐾

Sponsorship and Giving Information

Take part! Act now! Show your ongoing appreciation and concern for New Jersey's wildlife. Become an active sponsor of Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, or give a Gift of Wildlife sponsorship, now! Your sponsorship helps support our growing, vital wildlife rehabilitation and educational programs. All Sponsorships include Sponsorship card and newsletters. Some Sponsorships may include wildlife books, activity sheets, bandanas, event tickets, decals or magnets.

- Child(under 14)** \$15 Age _____
- Senior** \$20
- Individual** \$40
- Family** \$50 Children's Ages _____
- Patron** \$100
- Sustaining** \$500
- Lifetime** \$2000
- Please do not send benefit items.*



Honor or Remember a person or pet

- In Memory of In Honor of - Person Pet:
- \$_____ (*\$25 or more will be listed in next newsletter.*)

- General Donations** *are always welcome!*
- \$_____ Donations are tax-deductible.

- Pieces and Parts** (*See information to right →*)
- \$_____



- Please send volunteer information**
- Volunteers are always needed!*

YES! I want to support **Woodlands Wildlife Refuge** as I have checked above:

Name _____

Gift From: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email _____

Send this form along with check or money order to:

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, Inc. P.O. Box 5046 Clinton, NJ 08809

Our Lifetime Sponsors:

- Mrs. Joyce Georges
- Mr. and Mrs. Keun-Sam Lee

Pieces and Parts

We thought you might like to actually sponsor "Pieces and Parts" of Woodlands Wildlife Refuge. The funds raised by this effort will enable us to finish, maintain, replace and improve various "Pieces and Parts" of the refuge as needed! Each sponsor will be honored by a "Donated by your name" plaque on display in our intake (public) area and where appropriate on or at the pieces or parts sponsored. We hope you enjoy this innovative way to continue your generous giving for yourself or in honor of someone else!

I would love to sponsor a "Piece or Part" of Woodlands! See where I have checked below:

- ___ Education Room \$1000
- ___ Black Bear Enclosure \$600
- ___ Fox/Coyote Enclosure \$500
- ___ Raccoon Enclosures \$400
- ___ Small Mammal Enclosures \$300
- ___ Medical Room/Supplies \$300
- ___ Isolation Room/Supplies \$300
- ___ Infant Care Room/Supplies \$300
- ___ Laundry Room \$300
- ___ Indoor Caging \$250
- ___ Intake - Office Area/Supplies \$200
- ___ Education Animals \$100
- ___ Food \$100
- ___ Handling Equipment/General items \$100

Thank you for your on-going support and generosity It is greatly appreciated!



Photo: Tracy Leaver

Lady Jane, happy at Woodlands..



9th Annual

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Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, Inc.
P.O. Box 5046 Clinton, N.J. 08809 (908) 730-8300



Woodlands Wildlife Refuge, Inc.

About Us

Woodlands Wildlife Refuge began in the mid 1980's, with the care of two orphaned raccoons. Now Woodlands cares for as many as four hundred animals in one year and enjoys a high success rate. We are a nonprofit charitable 501(C)(3) corporation, and receive no state or federal funds.

Woodlands was founded, and is directed by Tracy Leaver, a New Jersey state licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Woodlands has cared for raccoons, skunks, opossums, rabbits, woodchucks, foxes, squirrels, coyotes, fawns, bats, otters, porcupines, bears, and even bobcats.

Woodlands has a staff of trained volunteers who care for the animals until their release. Many are trained for emergency and critical care. The doctors and staff at the Animal Hospital of Clinton-Perryville have graciously treated animals needing more extensive care such as X-rays, fracture repair or surgery. The length of time an animal remains in our care depends on the condition of the animal when it is received. All animals are maintained until they are healthy enough to survive in the wild.

Our Mission

- ☛ To receive, rehabilitate, and release injured and orphaned native wildlife.
- ☛ To educate people about wild animal habits and habitats.
- ☛ To protect and create natural environments where people and animals exist in harmony.