

TO THE RESCUE

NEWSLETTER

Wildlife Rescue
ASSOCIATION

VOL. 44 NO. 1
WILDLIFERESCUE.CA | SPRING 2023



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
The Dangers of Entanglement



A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

While the chirps and calls of our wildlife patients can be heard year-round at the Wildlife Rescue Hospital, the spring and summer months are the busiest seasons of the year. Already, Wildlife Rescue staff and volunteers are working tirelessly to support the massive influx of injured and orphaned babies with many more to come!

January, February and March have kept our team busy. Along with preparing for the season ahead, Wildlife Rescue staff and volunteers have been working around the clock to support animals suffering from cold weather and injuries including entanglement, predator attacks, and being struck by cars. The Support Centre has answered thousands of emails and calls from the public and over 450 animals have been admitted for care. New waterfowl pools have been installed to support the hundreds of orphaned waterfowl raised at Wildlife Rescue each year, and recruitment has begun for additional seasonal staff and volunteer roles to handle the extra care required.

While we look forward to a spring filled with blooming plant life and thriving wildlife, it is our supporters like you that we look to first. This work is only possible thanks to your generosity, your commitment to raising awareness, and your compassion for wildlife. Thank you for saving wild lives this spring!

Warmly,

Coleen Doucette & Linda Bakker
Co-Executive Directors
Wildlife Rescue Association



See just how much good Wildlife Rescue did in 2022 in our Annual Impact Report

Head to [wildliferescue.ca/
annual-report](https://wildliferescue.ca/annual-report) or scan this code
to check it out!

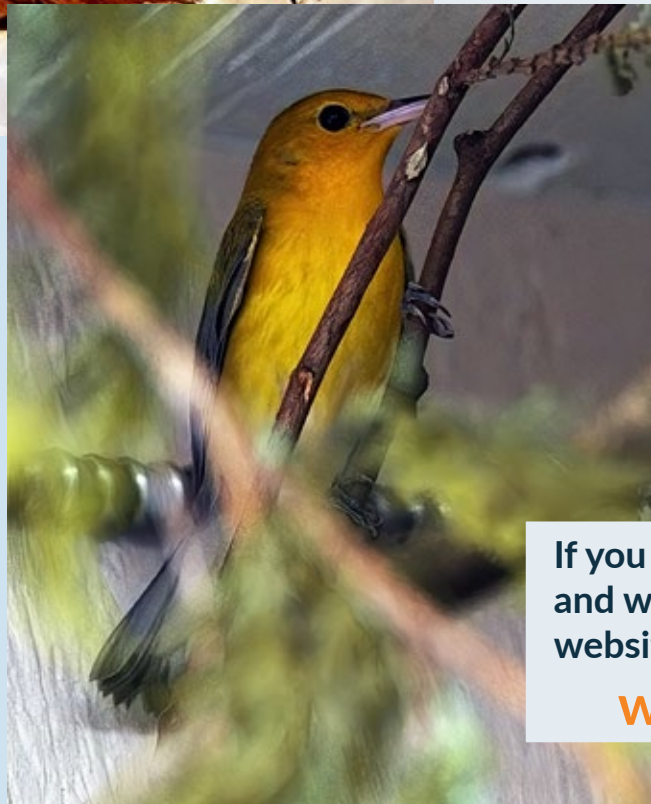


WRONG WAY, WARBLER!

This Prothonotary Warbler ended up far away from its migratory home!



This Prothonotary Warbler in our care is an endangered migratory species that spends its summers in southern Ontario and the northeastern United States. This warbler is only the 11th to be spotted in BC, and the first ever seen in winter.



Considering that this species of warbler spends its winters in the Gulf of Mexico and Central America, it had certainly gone well out of its way to get here! Ill-equipped for a Vancouver winter, our volunteer based Rescue Team was able to capture the warbler after it got stuck in a parking garage.

This Warbler is an Accidental Species, meaning it turned up in BC purely by chance. Wildlife Rescue's plan is to keep it in care until the spring, and then release it into a group of local warblers who will likely accept it into the flock.

If you think you'd be a great fit to volunteer with us and would like to see our current openings, visit our website at:

wildliferescue.ca/volunteering



Entanglements

Throughout the winter, Wildlife Rescue saw an increase in admitted animals entangled in litter. We encountered several ducks, a coot, a grebe, and other waterfowl who were entangled in all manner of human trash. We even managed to remove a fishing hook from the stomach of a gull entangled in fishing line with the help of x-rays. Entanglement isn't just a risk for waterfowl, other birds are also at risk. Birds such as this Varied Thrush, above, came to us caught up in garden netting.

Meant to dissuade pests, garden netting like this is just one of the many ways that our improperly discarded trash can prove deadly for animals. It's heartbreaking to see animals impacted like this, and people will often spring into action to help.





When you see an animal that has become entangled, your first instinct is likely to help it by removing the trash and letting the animal go. Unfortunately, a number of factors mean this isn't always the best thing to do. For one, you may not know how long the animal has been struggling against the entanglement.

When a bird tries to escape constriction, it will thrash with all its might to try and get free. This can lead to cuts and bruises, strained tendons and ligaments and in severe cases this thrashing can even cause broken bones. Additionally, the animal could be suffering from exhaustion and dehydration, and will be extremely vulnerable if directly released.

The best thing you can do to help a bird that has become entangled is to bring it to Wildlife Rescue. Leave the entanglement on the bird so that our team can carefully remove it and prevent further damage to the animal. Then, put it in a padded and well-ventilated box and call our helpline at 604-526-7275 or email wildlife@wildliferescue.ca for further instruction. By bringing the animal to Wildlife Rescue, we can

How You Can Help

- Properly discard trash and recyclables
- Familiarize yourself with your local municipality's waste disposal regulations so you can ensure your garbage is going into the correct bins
- Host a clean-up party
- Bring some friends to a park or beach to pick up any garbage left behind
- Alternatively, keep an extra garbage bag with you when you are out on your day-to-day errands so you can pick up anything you come across
- Reduce your single-use plastics
- Reach for reusable containers and bottles to decrease your use of single-use plastics

fully examine it to be sure it gets the best help available that will let it survive its harrowing ordeal before being returned to the wild.

Rehabilitating an entangled animal is expensive. It requires medical examinations, monitoring, medicine, and oftentimes costly wound management. Wildlife Rescue depends on the generosity of concerned wildlife lovers like you to treat our patients. Your donations go directly to helping animals impacted by human litter.

You can help victims of entanglements and other human caused impacts through a donation to Wildlife Rescue today!

Preventing Window Strikes

PATTERN

Use small pieces of tape to make a grid pattern on the outside of your window. Leave no gaps bigger than 5 x 5 cm.

SOAP

Coat the outside of your window with soap for an inexpensive and temporary solution.

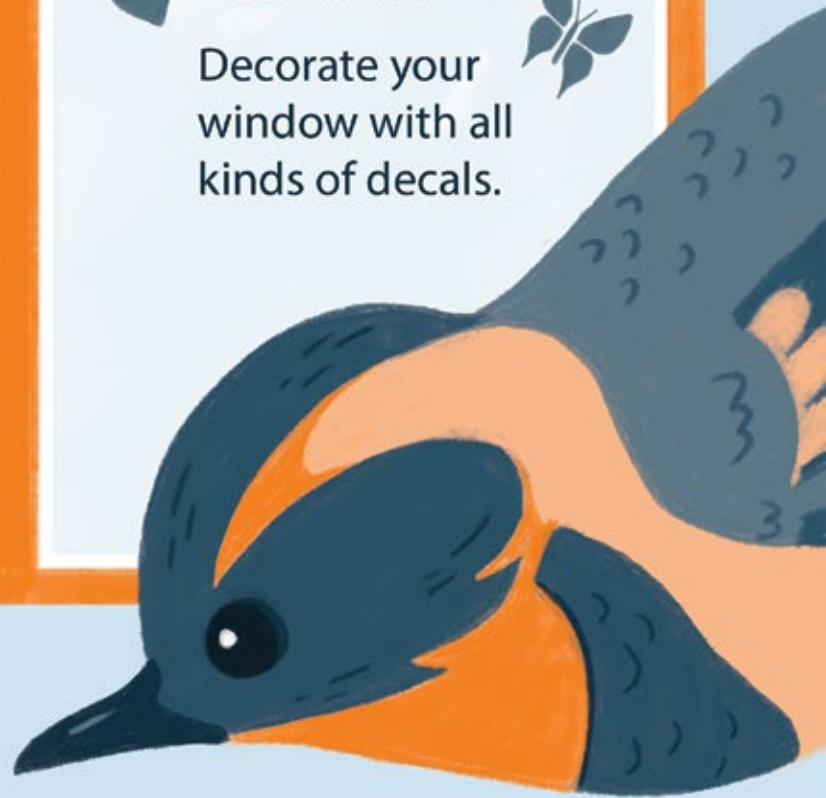
BLINDS

Pull your blinds down when light is shining directly on your window.

STICKERS

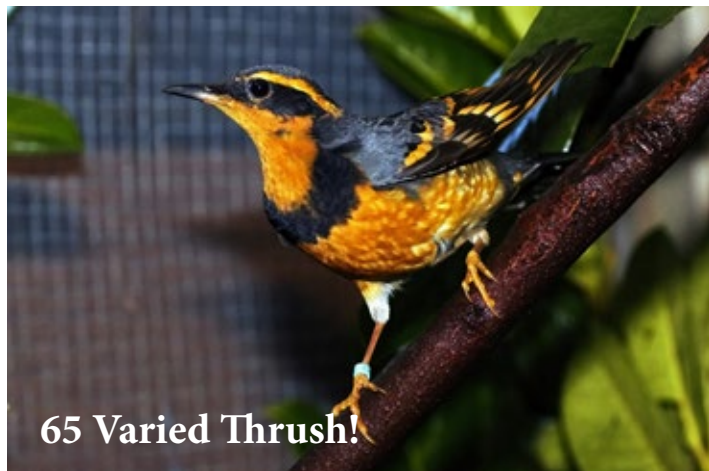
Decorate your window with all kinds of decals.

Window strikes kill an estimated 25 million birds a year in Canada alone. These simple tricks can help bring those numbers down!



Winter 2022-23 Highlights

496 Patients from December to February



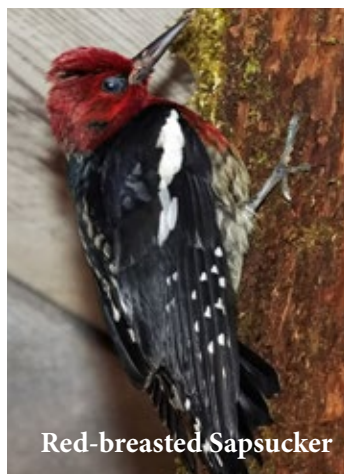
65 Varied Thrush!



American Wigeon



Eurasian Collared Dove



Red-breasted Sapsucker



Hooded Merganser

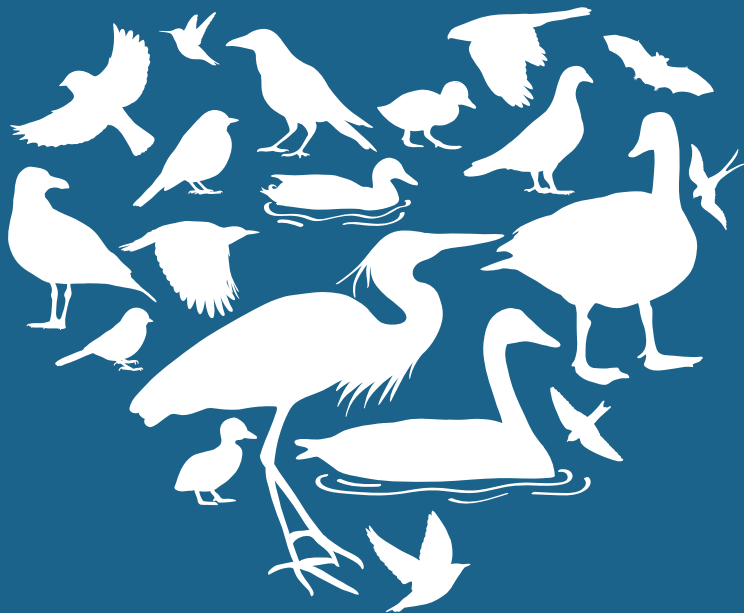


17 New Volunteers



A whole lot of snow!

Follow Wildlife Rescue!



For patient updates,
helpful tips and videos of
rehabilitated animals being
released to the wild.



linktr.ee/WildlifeRescueBC

YES! I'LL GIVE TO PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING SUPPORT TO ANIMALS THIS WINTER!

I would like to make a one-time gift of:

- ☐ \$25 to support injured wildlife
- ☐ \$50 to support injured wildlife
- ☐ \$100 to support injured wildlife
- ☐ \$250 to support injured wildlife
- ☐ \$_____ to provide medical treatment to as many animals as possible!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Enclosed Cheque

Credit Card#: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

Email*: _____ Tel: _____

Thank you! To reduce waste and lower administration costs, official tax receipts are issued by email, unless otherwise requested.

PRE-AUTHORIZED MONTHLY GIFT OPTION

**YES! I wish to support local wildlife
through an ongoing monthly gift to Wildlife
Rescue's Freedom Partners Program:**

- ☐ \$10/month to support wildlife in need
- ☐ \$25/month to support wildlife in need
- ☐ \$35/month to support wildlife in need
- ☐ \$50/month to support wildlife in need
- ☐ \$_____/month to help

as many animals as possible!

Please debit my bank account (attach VOID cheque) OR
charge my provided credit card monthly. Wildlife Rescue will
process your first credit card payment or reach out to verify
bank account by the email provided within 2-4 weeks.

Wildlife Rescue
ASSOCIATION

Wildlife Rescue Association of BC
5216 Glencarin Drive
Burnaby, BC V5B 3C1

* Email is required for pre-authorized monthly gifts

Wildlife Rescue Association of BC respects the support of all our donors. We do not trade or sell donors' names. Donations and Memberships are tax deductible.

Charitable Registration Number #13137 3490 RR 0001

NL202212

Please make cheques payable to Wildlife Rescue Association.

THIS NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER