

TO THE RESCUE

NEWSLETTER

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Wildlife Rescue
ASSOCIATION

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In Memorial: Dave Stafford

The staff and volunteers of Wildlife Rescue are saddened to note the passing of Dave Stafford. A dedicated volunteer at Wildlife Rescue Association, Burnaby Lake Park Association and other non-profits, Dave was loved for his humour and willingness to help anyone who needed it.

During his many years as a volunteer at Wildlife Rescue, Dave was a lead transport volunteer. He drove injured and recovered animals from Squamish, Abbotsford and everywhere inbetween in his Volkswagen van, racking up many thousands of kilometers to help animals in need.

He was also a passionate advocate for recycling. He would collect cans and bottles found around Burnaby Lake after events and donate the deposit money to Wildlife Rescue. In 2016 he was awarded a Community Stewardship Star from the Burnaby Lake Parks Association and in 2017 he was recognized as an Eco Hero by the Burnaby Board of Trade.



Dave worked with animals for as long as his health would allow. His passing is a huge loss for us all, and those who knew him will always remember his outsized personality and love of a good story.

Dave, wherever you are now, we are all sure you're making it a better place. Thank you for letting us be a part of your life.

-The Wildlife Rescue Team



Fall Highlights

1194 Patients from September to January



How Hummingbirds Handle Cold

With the cold snap caused by the polar vortex in January, Wildlife Rescue's Helpline recieved hundreds of calls about hummingbirds who appeared to be suffering from the cold.

Anna's Hummingbirds don't migrate far, and don't hibernate, but they aren't as ill-equipped to handle the frigid temperatures as you might think!

Hummingbirds have a defense mechanism for dealing with the cold called torpor, in which they enter an extreme energy saving state. Their metabolism drastically lowers along with their heart rate and body temperature, all in an effort to save energy. When in torpor, hummingbirds can stay in one spot for long periods of time and may even appear to be sleeping.

If you see a hummingbird in cold weather that appears lethargic and half-asleep, they might be in torpor! Of course, if you ever have any concerns or further questions, please call our Helpline at (604) 526-7275 or email us at wildlife@wildliferescue.ca for more information.





A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Dear Friend to Wildlife,



This winter has been one for the record books. The annual Winter Match Campaign was held over the holidays, raising \$158,965! A sincere thank you to all who gave and made that campaign a success. The rest of the winter has held huge dumps of snow and frigid temperatures across the province. We're both very happy to see the warming days of spring on the horizon!

With the spring comes new life, and for Wildlife Rescue, the busiest season. Every year hundreds of injured and orphaned baby birds come through the hospital doors. Throughout the winter months we've been working tirelessly to prepare for the huge wave of babies in need. From stockpiling food, to preparing new enclosures, to sourcing warming pads that mimic a mother's warmth, we will make sure all is well prepared for the season to come. There's a lot of excitement in the air as we develop new and better ways to help wildlife recover from terrible ordeals.

This spring we expect to face even greater challenges. With the costs of nearly everything increasing sharply over the last few years, we sat down to see just how much more expensive it has become to rehabilitate an animal. The result was shocking. Since 2020, the average cost to provide care to an injured or orphaned animal has skyrocketed from \$260 to \$465. That's a 79% increase!

Friend, there's no doubt that wild animals suffering from human impact are going to need the specialized care that Wildlife Rescue provides. With these staggering cost increases, the question will be just how many we can help. Your gifts mean the difference between life or death for these orphaned and injured animals.

One especially helpful way you can make a difference is with a sustainable monthly gift. By donating a small amount monthly, you can make a big impact for wildlife. We would love to send you a free 2024 calendar as thanks for becoming a monthly member!

On behalf of the wildlife in our care, we thank you for your generosity,

Coleen Doucette & Linda Bakker
Co-executive Directors, Wildlife Rescue Association

Coleen Doucette *Linda Bakker*

Warehouse Rescue

This Great Blue Heron was found exhausted and emaciated after being trapped in a Vancouver warehouse. While flying around inside the cavernous building in a panic, it crashed into some scaffolding and tumbled to the ground.

Having only been discovered on a Monday, the heron could have been trapped in the warehouse all weekend. The concerned warehouse staff were able to contain the heron after calling the Wildlife Rescue Helpline for guidance.

Thankfully, despite the fall onto hard concrete, the heron's injuries were relatively minor. It remained in Wildlife Rescue care for three days before being cleared for release. It is now flying free and enjoying a wild life!



join
**FREEDOM
PARTNERS**
today!



You can ensure the needs of wildlife are met all year round with a sustainable monthly donation. For the price of your favourite streaming service, you can help injured, orphaned and pollution impacted animals when they need you most. Simply head to wildliferescue.ca/give to set up your monthly gift.



LET YOUR LEGACY
BE WILD

For over 44 years, we have cared for the largest number of injured wild animals in Western Canada! Please consider including Wildlife Rescue in your legacy gift planning.

Give wildlife a second chance at a natural life.

(604) 526-2747, ext 517 | giftplanning@wildliferescue.ca